# THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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## MASTERMIND OF '08 MUMBAI ATTACK LAKHVI HELD IN PAK

**Lashkar-e-Toiba operations commander Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi was arrested in Pakistan on terror financing charges**

### FUNDING TERRORISM THROUGH DISPENSARY

A UN proscribed terrorist, Lakhvi was arrested from Lahore by the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab province on Saturday. Lakhvi (61) is accused of running a dispensary to fund terrorism activities. He was on bail since 2015 in the Mumbai attack case. His trial will be held before the Anti-Terrorism Court in Lahore, official sources said

### ACTING UNDER GLOBAL PRESSURE

- The arrest follows Paris-based terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force's pressure on Pakistan to take action against terrorists using its territory to carry out attacks in India
- Lakhvi was designated as a global terrorist by the United Nations in December 2008 for being associated with LeT and al-Qaeda

**1.5 Lakh**

**PAK RUPEES PAID MONTHLY TO LAKHVI TOWARDS 'PERSONAL EXPENSES'**


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# Bharat Biotech's swadeshi vaccine receives panel nod

With 2 manufacturers getting nod, rollout may happen in a week

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @New Delhi

A government-appointed panel of the apex drug regulator on Saturday recommended emergency use authorisation for Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, India's first homegrown vaccine against Covid-19. This comes a day after it approved a vaccine against coronavirus by AstraZeneca-Oxford University.

The committee said the recommendation for the vaccine's restricted use in emergency situations was in the "public interest as an abundant precaution, in clinical trial mode, especially in the context of infection by mutant strains."

Bharat Biotech, in collaboration with the ICMR, has developed Covaxin from inactivated SARS-CoV 2, isolated at the National Institute of Virology, Pune. Although the vaccine has demonstrated good safety and immunogenicity in phase 1 and 2 clinical trials, it is still undergoing phase 3 trials and, therefore, its efficacy remains to be established.

The Centre also issued a statement that the subject expert committee (SEC) of the Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation, following its meetings on Friday and Saturday, recommended the vaccines for consideration and final decision of the Drugs Controller General of India.

"Grant of permission for restricted emergency use of vaccine (is being given), subject to multiple regulatory conditionalities, to Serum Institute of India, Pune," said a statement by the ministry of health and family welfare.

The back-to-back permission granted to the vaccines could mean they will be rolled out simultaneously in about a week. Sources said the unscheduled meeting of the SEC on Saturday to reconsider Bharat Biotech's application was called under government pressure after the panel had refused permission a day earlier citing insufficient data.

CONTINUED ON: P9

**There seems to be a political desire to release an Indian vaccine ahead of the visit of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and there was pressure from local groups**

Member, National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration on Covid-19

A health worker administers a shot as part of the dry run for the vaccination rollout in Mysuru on Saturday. The exercise was held in five districts | UDAYSHANKAR S

## Save for teething troubles, mock drive smooth in Karnataka

Bengaluru: The dry run for the vaccination rollout across five districts of Karnataka more or less went off "smoothly" with some glitches related to internet connectivity, beneficiaries not turning up as they were unwell, and not reporting to vaccination site. According to Medical Education and Health minister Dr K Sudhakar, the exercise was conducted smoothly as per protocol at three sites each in Bengaluru Urban, Shivamogga, Mysuru, Kalaburagi and Belagavi districts. Around 100 vaccinators and 375 beneficiaries were part of the dry run, officials said. Sudhakar explained that the vaccine rollout is expected to start this month itself and it will be given for free of cost initially to one crore health workers. The Centre will issue guidelines on administering the vaccine for other sections of society in stages and the state will implement it, he added. While some vaccination sites in Mysuru district faced internet glitches, hampering real-time uploading of data on the Co-WIN software. Some primary health centres in Bengaluru Urban started the mock drill late. At the Vidyapeetha PHC in Bengaluru, only a few beneficiaries turned up as many were unwell. | P3

EASE OF DOING BIZ

# BUSINESSES IN STATE CAN NOW OPERATE 24X7

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a big move intended at generating more employment and increasing revenue, the State Government has decided to allow shops and commercial establishments, which have a staff strength of 10 or more people, to operate 24 hours on all days of the year.

The final notification was issued by the Labour Department on Saturday. Last year, the department has issued the preliminary notification proposing permission to allow businesses to operate 24x7 and had invited objections. Now, a final notification has been issued and businesses can operate 24 hours, once it is published in the Official Gazette, which is expected to happen within a few days. The order will be in effect for three years.

"This has been done to generate more jobs and to increase revenue. It has come amid the economic slowdown induced by the coronavirus pandemic and the move is expected to boost the economy," a senior official of the department said.

So far, businesses that are required to operate round the clock needed separate permission from the Labour department. "With this modification, all businesses, by default, can operate 24 hours without additional permissions. This is another step towards making the state more business-friendly and increasing ease of doing business," the official said, adding that the local administration in cities and districts used to fix the timings for businesses.

The notification states that the government "permits all shops and commercial establishments in the state, employing ten or more persons, to be open on 24x7 basis on all days of the year". P5

IND-AUS CRICKET

## 5 players isolated; Covid-19 protocol breach probe on

Chennai: Five members of the Indian team — Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant, Shubhman Gill, Prithvi Shaw and Navdeep Saini — have been isolated from the rest of the contingent after a fan posted a video of them dining at an indoor restaurant. The five will be allowed to train during the period, but under strict protocols, and will not be allowed to mix with the rest of the squad, the Cricket Australia said. As per CA's Covid-19 protocol, players are allowed to dine outside their hotel but only outdoors. "The BCCI and CA are investigating the matter and seeking to determine whether the outing constitutes a breach of biosecurity protocols," said a Cricket Australia statement | P13

EXPRESS READ

### Former HM Buta Singh passes away at 86

New Delhi: Former Union Home minister Buta Singh, who had served under four PMs, died at the AIIMS, Delhi, on Saturday. He was 86. Singh was an eight-time MP and also served as governor of Bihar.

### Exports slip for third month on a trot

New Delhi: India's exports slipped by 0.8% in December 2020, marking three consecutive months of dip, while rise in imports widened the trade deficit to $15.71 billion. Exports in December stood at $26.89 billion. P12

# Farmers issue R-Day tractor rally ultimatum if deadlock continues

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chandigarh

A day after the farmers threatened to step up their agitation, the protesters on Saturday issued an ultimatum to the government and said they will take out a tractor rally to Delhi on January 26 if their demand for the repeal of the farm laws and legalising of MSP was not met.

Announcing the decision of the seven-member coordination committee of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, chief of BKU (Rajewal group) Balbir Singh Rajewal and president of Krantikari Kisan Union Punjab Darshan Pal said: "We have given a call for a tractor-trolley parade to Delhi on January 26. The parade with the national flag will be called the 'farmers republic parade' and will take place after the official parade."

"We intend to be peaceful. We told the Central government long ago that it has only two options, either repeal the three farm acts or use force to evict us," the farm leaders said. Rajewal and Pal said the time had come for decisive action. They had chosen January 26 for the rally for two reasons: Republic Day represented the supremacy of the people while the day will also mark two months of their protest.

The tractor rally on January 26 will go ahead if there is no resolution during the talks on Monday. Lohri/Makar Sankranti on January 13 will be observed as Kisan Sankalp Diwas by burning the copies of the three laws. January 18 will be celebrated as Mahila Kisan Diwas to underline the role of women farmers, and January 23, the birth anniversary of Subhash Chandra Bose, will be observed as Azad Hind Kisan Diwas. Protests will be held outside Raj Bhavan in all state capitals. The leaders said although the government had agreed to "minor demands" on air pollution and Electricity Amendment Bill, it was yet to give them legal shape. CONTINUED ON: P9

## SOURAV SUFFERS MILD HEART ATTACK

Indian cricket board president and former India skipper Sourav Ganguly suffered a 'mild' heart attack on Saturday when he was in the gym and had to be admitted to a private hospital where doctors found multiple blockages in his coronary arteries. Ganguly underwent angioplasty and a stent was placed in one of the arteries. Doctors said his condition is stable. Ganguly was rushed to the hospital in the afternoon following complaint of chest pain. Sourav's brother Snehasish Ganguly said that he was stable. Cricket fraternity, led by Virat Kohli and Sachin Tendulkar, wished Sourav a speedy recovery. West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee and governor Jagdeep Dhankhar visited him in the hospital.

P13

REVENUE DEFICIT

## As you WFH, Excise officials wring their hands!

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

WOULD it surprise you if someone told you that working from home could actually be hurting the State Government's revenues? Well, at least the Excise Department officials think so.

The loss in excise revenue in the current fiscal could be because of the work from home (WFH) culture, as people are not venturing out much to pubs and bars, according to some senior state Excise officers during a review meeting of the department by Excise Minister H Nagesh on Saturday. They even went to the extent of urging the minister to prevail upon the Chief Minister and end the WFH culture in the state. Excise revenues have been severely hit because of the pandemic-induced lockdown between March 23 and May 5, 2020 and the steep rise in excise duty on all slabs of Indian Made Liquor (IML) a day after the CL2 (retail liquor stores) were opened in May last year.

Only in the third quarter of 2020-21 the department's revenue collection at Rs 16,405 crore had surpassed the collection of Rs 16,218 crore during the corresponding period in 2019-20. P7

**MORALE BOOSTER**

To boost the morale and confidence of the Excise guards and head guards, the government has re-designated them as excise constables and head constables.


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ALMANAC TODAY
• Sunday: 03/01/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Dakshinayana
• Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Margashira • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Chaturthi 7.50 am
• Nakshatra: Makha 7.46 pm • Moon in Kanya Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
• Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

# A ROOM OF THEIR OWN

This rural library provides the means to open doors of opportunity to young people

G SUBHASH CHANDRA @Chitradurga

LIBRARIES store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better." — Sidney Sheldon, author

The American writer's words hold true for the village library in Kaidale in Davangere district. Right from the littlest of the village's residents --- children as young as two -- to the elderly, this store house of stories, information and knowledge, has captured everyone's hearts.

Located on the second floor of the Kaidale Gram Panchayat office --- which caters to around 16,000 people in eight villages — young children visit the library to scribble on the white board, while the elderly read newspapers to keep up with the times.

The highlight though, is its vast collection of books that would help young people prepare for examinations that would make them eligible for higher studies, or jobs they aspire to. Each day, around 150 students turn up to pore over the books.

The library has books for police constable and sub-inspector exams, Karnataka Administrative Services, the central civil services, banking services, panchayat development officer, the Common Entrance Exam, JEE, NEET, and even novels.

But why would a state-run library acquire such books in such a large number, you ask? Panchayat Development Officer Vidyavathi I C, who built the collection, says she knows how hard it is to obtain education and then apply for jobs.

"I used to travel from my house in Kakkaragolla village to Davanagere city and went through a lot of hardship while studying," says the arts graduate, recalling the 8km commute. Bus connectivity was poor and she would leave early in the morning, only to return late in the evening. "I wrote competitive exams for all kinds of jobs, but I was hired as PDO and I am happily serving rural people," she says.

When she took over as PDO in 2010, Kaidale had no library. In 2016, she set one up, and slowly, began to procure books for competitive exams along with fiction and newspapers. A big break came when the panchayat received Rs 10 lakh under the Namma Grama Namma Yojane that year, and Rs 5 lakh when it won the Gandhi Gram Puraskar.

Now, the library has 2,886 hard copy books, and 1,556 e-books, audio and video learning material. It also has rooftop solar panels, and is self-sufficient on the power front.

"We bought books based on demand from users, and also keeping in mind future requirements. We hope they come in handy for youths so that they can scale new heights. More importantly, the habit of reading should be cultivated. I am happy that we attract people from kindergartners to postgraduates and the elderly who come here regularly to read books and newspapers," she says.

As the library became popular, people too began to see its advantages, the biggest one being that young children were fascinated by books. "If not for this, many children would have turned into child labourers, working on farms, dehusking arecanut," Vidyavathi says.

Many people donated money, some made out amounts as large as Rs 15,000 or Rs 20,000 towards the purchase of books. "Their only demand was that we ensure the youth and students of Kaidale village study at their doorsteps and reach new frontiers of the world," Vidyavathi says.

Says Mallikarjun Kaidale, resident, "The library has become a hub of learning. Children would have become child labourers during the lockdown. They love to go to the library to read and write. Youths are allowed to browse on the computer, and learn new things. We want this library to be developed further and ensure that youths get better knowledge and excel in their lives."

**VIDYAVATHI I C**
Panchayat Development Officer

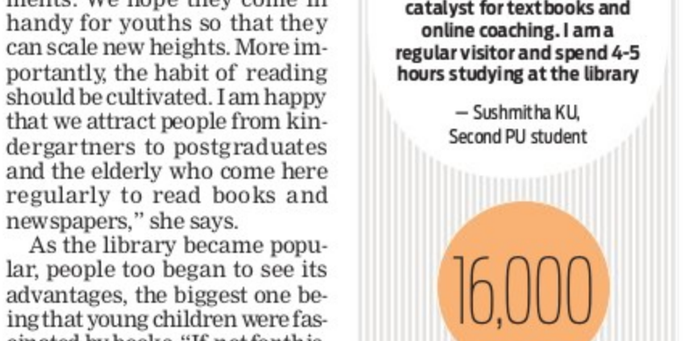
**The closure of colleges created a lot of trouble for me. It was at this point that the library helped me continue my studies for NEET and JEE. My aim is to get into institutions of national repute. I requested the PDO to acquire some books on physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics. These have acted as a catalyst for textbooks and online coaching. I am a regular visitor and spend 4-5 hours studying at the library**

— Sushmitha KU, Second PU student

**16,000**
People in eight villages frequent the library

**2,886**
Hard copy books in library

**1,556**
e-books, videos, audio material



# MYSURU MAN CONNECTS JOBSEEKERS WITH EMPLOYERS

KARTHIK K K @Mysuru

YOU may not have to go to job search websites to look for opportunities. A 45-year-old man from Mysuru is silently on a mission bridging the gap between the employers and jobseekers with his novel initiative.

S Achuthananda, a native of Mysuru, has made use of a simple technology and messaging app to help over 2,000 people get desired jobs in the last three-and-a-half years.

Achuthananda, who works as a business unit head at Bengaluru-based company, started a WhatsApp group called 'Udyoga Nimitham' in March 2017 with 50 members (40 candidates + 10 HRs). This came at a time when job listing sites had taken over the internet and job consultancy firms had mushroomed across the state and amid complaints of looting money people who are hit by rising unemployment.

Today, he has over 13,200+ job aspirants (on his Telegram group) and over 475 HR professionals in WhatsApp groups working in manufacturing, IT industries as managers, assistant managers and executives with reputed companies and organizations.

"Once I got to hear an inspirational speech from noted cardiologist and author Dr B M Hegde where he mentioned about giving back to society. This made me think and I wanted to do something for society. Since I was in the HR field, the idea of helping unemployed youths came to mind. At that time, youths were struggling a lot to get information on vacancies and whom to approach. They only depended on consultancy firms. To fill this gap, I came up with Udyoga Nimitham," he says.

Since then, on a daily basis, he has been posting job offers on his Telegram group, which he gets from the over 475 HR professionals who are members. "Candidates who meet the eligibility criteria, contact that particular HR or employer, attend the interview and get the job," he says. To ensure aspirants don't fall prey to misinformation or fake job listings, he educates them on the pitfalls of some job search sites and advises them not to pay fees to anyone promising a job.

"Many asked me to tie up with their firm and run this, but I never wanted to make it a commercial business," says Achuthananda, who runs the show alone and spends time verifying and posting listings on these groups.

To expand this to more organisations, HR employees and job aspirants, he has launched a website (www.udhyoganimitham.com). Achuthananda also came to the rescue of many people who lost jobs due to Covid, and in the last couple of months, over 60 such individuals have found work.

"Though I am a native of Shivamogga, this wonderful platform helped me connect with the HR and I got a job I was looking for. His social service must continue as it would help many more job aspirants," says Nagendra K Acharya, a civil engineer, working in Bengaluru.

Vijayaraj R, a member of this group who got a job as a graphic designer with an MNC, says, "I was looking for a job change and joined this group. I applied for relevant job postings and subsequently was called for interviews. In 10 days, I was able to find a suitable job." Kanimozhi, who works as an HR, says, "We have benefited by this group and we support this initiative."

Shankar M K, a social worker and a former corporator, says, "I have seen Achuthananda's work closely for more than two decades. Even before starting 'Udhyoga Nimitham', he used to guide and share details about job vacancies with unemployed youths and many have benefited due to his service. (To join 'Udyoga Nimitham' group contact- 99002024614)

**S ACHUTHANANDA**
Innovator

**13,200+**
job aspirants on the Telgram group

**475**
HR professionals in WhatsApp groups

**March 2017**
he started Udyoga Nimitham

I have seen Achuthananda's work closely for more than two decades. Even before starting 'Udhyoga Nimitham', he used to guide and share details about job vacancies with unemployed youths and many have benefited due to his service

— Shankar M K, social worker

We have benefited by this group and we support this initiative.

— Kanimozhi, HR professional

A third of 3.3 lakh Class 12 students have returned to schools | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

# Attendance up in schools, colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

ON Day 2 of the schools and colleges reopening amid the pandemic fear, the numbers have slowly picked up.

Announcing that the attendance in II PUC and SSLC was good from Day 1 itself, Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar said that parents are happy with the arrangements made for the safety of their children and are ready to send them regularly to classes.

The minister said that very soon, the SSLC and PUC syllabus will be fixed according to the time schedule available for the classes and ensure that the students are not burdened. "Depending on the syllabus chosen and classes taught, the exam duration will also be fixed," Suresh Kumar told the media after visiting a school in Ramanagaram near Bengaluru.

The preparatory exam timetable for both classes will be announced shortly, he said.

He said that there are 5,492 PU colleges in Karnataka with 3,30,877 students. On Saturday, 1,09,319 attended classes. "That is nearly 33 per cent. We are expecting more numbers from Monday," said the minister.

As for SSLC, there are 16,850 government high schools and 9,29,130 students. Of these students, 4,25,896 attended classes.

# After strong smoke smell, passengers made to get off Metro train

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

PASSENGERS were made to get off a Metro train at the Jayanagar station on Saturday evening, after the staff felt a strong smell of smoke. The train was heading from Yelachenahalli station towards Nagasandra station (Green Line).

The incident took place at Banashankari station. However, the train was allowed to travel to the next station, Rashtreeya Vidyalaya Road. But the passengers were finally made to deboard at the subsequent Jayanagar station.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited Managing Director Ajay Seth told The New Indian Express, "In one train, the smell of smoke was felt at Banashankari station. But the location of the smoke could not be identified."

"The train was pushed in the Metro spare line at National College. The train will be examined in detail tonight," he said.

Chief Public Relations Officer B L Yashvanth Chavan said, "It was the Metro staff who felt the smell of the smoke. We did not want to make the train run through the underground stations on the Line because of the risk factor involved. So as a precautionary measure, the train was taken to the pocket track at National College."

An eyewitness who wanted to board a train at Lal Bagh Metro station (another Green Line station) said the staff restricted him saying entry points have been limited.

However, Chavan ruled out that exit and entrance gates were being shut for passengers because of the smoke incident. "Due to the pandemic, the restrictions were in place since we restarted Metro operations in September. It has nothing to do with today's smoke incident," he said.

# ADB ties up with Palike to train health officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Asian Development Bank has partnered with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to set up a technical support unit, supporting the National Urban Health Mission-Centre of Excellence at the Indian Institute of Public Health Foundation of India.

The unit will train health officials on dealing with pandemics. It will focus on vulnerable populations, stakeholders to plan strategies and chalk out initiatives in collaboration with BBMP. BBMP Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad told The New Indian Express that the unit was being set up for one year to start with. Based on its success, the tenure would be extended annually. The main aim is that PHFI will do capacity building for BBMP staff and researchers on pandemics and epidemics.

They will give all the required knowledge on how to deal with it and the staff will be trained. This will be the first of its kind in the city and state, he said.

Dr Giridhar Babu is serving as the co-chair of the public health task force for Covid-19 response team in BBMP. The unit will comprise Dr Suresh S Shapeti, IIPH- PHFI, Team Lead; Dr T N Sathyanarayana, social scientist and programme manager; Dr Biswamitra Sahu, qualitative research expert; Eunice Lobo, public health expert; Deepa R, public health expert and T S Ramesh, Administrative officer – all from IIPH- PHFI.

**COVID SANTHE**

Artists prepare to exhibit their work on the novel coronavirus at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Saturday evening, for the Chitra Santhe to be held Sunday onwards. Most exhibits this year will be displayed online | VINOD KUMAR T

EXPRESS READ

**Students to travel in BMTC, KSRTC buses**

BENGALURU: Students can use BMTC and KSRTC passes issued last year, or admission fees receipts for the current year, or school/college ID cards to commute to schools and colleges by ordinary buses. KSRTC has permitted such travel until January 31. Students in Classes 6-10, Class 12, and all college students can avail of this facility. They can apply for passes online and collect them at Bangalore One centres. **ENS**

BBMP has written to the Government recommending that the proposal to name roads in Padarayanapura ward after social workers and leaders belonging to a minority community be dropped

# IT'S GUARD UP AGAIN WITH NEW UK VARIANT

India currently has 5,879 variants of SARS-CoV-2; NCDC to maintain database of variants; consortium to work on new vaccines

A health worker arranges test samples collected at Majestic bus stand | SHRIRAM BN

**The mutation**

The "B.1.1.7" variant of SARS-CoV-2 virus has a mutation in the receptor binding domain of the spike protein at position 501, where amino acid asparagine (N) has been replaced with tyrosine (Y). The shorthand for this mutation is N501Y, sometimes noted as S:N501Y to specify that it is in the spike protein.

**IMPLICATIONS**

1. Ability to spread more quickly in humans.
2. Ability to cause milder/ severe disease.
3. Ability to evade detection by specific diagnostic tests.
4. Lesser susceptibility to therapeutic agents.
5. Ability to evade vaccine-induced immunity.

(GFX source: Centre for Disease Control & Prevention)

**Efficacy of vaccines on new strain**

Retired professor of Neurovirology, NIMHANS and Nodal Officer for genetic confirmation for SARS COV-2 in Karnataka, Dr V Ravi, says, "The vaccines are definitely going to be effective even with the new variant, while some vaccine companies are modifying their vaccines for the UK variant. The people who get vaccines will be safe from Covid for one or two years. What is required now is to continue genome sequencing on a regular basis to monitor and detect emergence of new variants."

**Should we worry?**

On December 29, the Ministry of Health confirmed that Karnataka had its first three cases of the UK variant. Till January 1, it went up to 10. The state government, however, has been taking quick steps to identify their contacts and isolate them. Experts say one needs to be cautious. "If you were to ask Covid19 its mantra, it would say, 'Unlike my cousins Ebola and Zika, I don't go for the kill straight away. I spread far and wide, and then seek out the meek to kill.' The new variants are emerging from Nigeria, South Africa and other countries, are the result of a combination of lineage-defining mutations in the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2. Should we be worried? Well, certainly yes, enough to get our guard up again, literally in the form of physical distance, masks, and hand-hygiene," says Dr Vishal Rao, member, Covid Consultative Group.

IFFATH FATHIMA & RANJANI MADHAVAN @ Bengaluru

The new SARS-CoV-2 virus variant discovered in the United Kingdom and which has slipped into India has people worried in Karnataka.

That is understandable as ten Covid-19-positive patients have been detected in Karnataka, the highest in the country. Of these, six are in Bengaluru (three in Bommanahalli, two in Rajajinagar and one in JP Nagar), while four are in Shivamogga.

The UK variant — also referred to as "SARS-CoV-2 VOC 202012/01" (the first 'Variant Of Concern' from 2020 December), or "B.1.1.7" — was identified early December by UK health officials through genome sequencing of two samples collected on September 20. The tests, confirming the new variant, estimated it to have up to 70 per cent higher transmissibility than its original version.

While the Indian government took quick interventions, including banning all UK flights into the country, a question remains: Is it just this variant present in the country or others which have not been identified yet? A Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) study points at 5,879 variants of Covid virus currently in India. This is out of 6,370 genomes that have been analysed so far.

However, it is important to know which variant is associated with a function that can make it more transmissible, as many genomic variations do not make it more virulent, explains Dr Vinod Scaria, genomic scientist, CSIR-IGIB. "Only variants that have more infectivity, or can escape the antibodies, are what everyone is worried about. Some variants can escape specific antibodies and are hence more important. The genetic lineage with the UK variant, for instance, is believed to be more infectious, although there is only limited scientific evidence to substantiate that," Dr Scaria says.

The study by CSIR-IGIB and Kurnool Medical College on SARS-CoV-2 genomes from Andhra Pradesh and across India detected 19 such variants. One of them is said to have emerged in larger numbers in Andhra Pradesh and in smaller numbers in other states, including Maharashtra and Telangana.

BIG PICTURE

Dr Giridhar Babu, member, Karnataka State Expert Committee, says, "Population diversity, genetic makeup, environment — including proportion of the people infected — will definitely influence the way a virus changes. The virus has to survive and it won't, if it kills more people. It can survive only when the host (human) survives."

**Panel to track new variants**

It is to tackle these issues that the Centre on December 30 constituted a high-level inter-ministerial steering Committee. Its role is to guide the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomic (INSACOG) consortia, which has been formed to identify new variants of SARS-CoV-2 virus, says Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

INSACOG will monitor genomic variations in the virus on a regular basis through a network of 10 laboratories and keep track of the status of the new variant in India. It will establish a sentinel surveillance system for early detection of variants and determine the genomic variants in case of unusual events and trends (super-spreader events, high mortality/ morbidity trend areas). The consortium will be involved in developing potential vaccines too, the DBT said.

DBT-National Institute of BioMedical Genomics (NIBMG), which is the coordinating unit of the consortium, will work with a nodal unit of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) on SOPs, data annotation, data analysis, and data release.

NCDC will maintain a database of all samples of the variants. The data will be epidemiologically analysed, interpreted and shared with states/districts for investigation, contact tracing and response strategies. All the genomic sequencing data will be maintained in a national database at two sites, DBT-NIBMG, Kalyani and CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi. The isolated virus will be deposited at the Regional Centre for Biotechnology, Faridabad and National Institute of Virology, Pune.

# Dry run goes off 'smoothly' in state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE state government on Saturday held a two-hour dry run in five districts to check end-to-end preparedness for vaccine administration.

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "Everything went smoothly, as per protocol. The state is prepared for the process once we get the vaccine. We will try to vaccinate as many people as possible in a day."

The drill was conducted at three sites each in Kalaburagi, Shivamogga, Belagavi, Mysuru and Bengaluru districts. Each site had 25 beneficiaries, including health staff at each of the identified PHCs, taluk and district hospitals.

Joint Director Dr Shivanand Surgali said each district will send a report on the mock drill to the state, which would in turn compile them and report to the Centre.

In Bengaluru, five vaccinators were present at Vidyapeetha, Kamakshipalya and Hargade PHCs. Each "vaccination" took five minutes.

Beneficiaries were first directed to the registration desk where their identities were verified. They were given sanitiser, and their temperature checked. Next, they were seated in the waiting room and vaccinated according to the serial numbers.

In Kalaburagi the drill began at 10am and went on till noon. "The three vaccination centres resembled poll booths. A Group D employee verified the identities of beneficiaries outside the centre," a health officer said.

In Belagavi district, there was a demonstration on how to watch out for adverse reactions to the vaccine.

Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri said at Jayanagara PHC in Mysuru that once the vaccine arrives, 32,000 health workers, including Group D employees, will be first in line.

Officials in Shivamogga district assessed the operational feasibility of the Co-Win software, testing the linkages between planning and implementation and identifying challenges. The drill is expected to give confidence to programme managers at various levels. DHO Dr Rajesh Suragihalli said the drill would help staff vaccinate a large number of people.

**LACK OF INTERNET AT PHCS A CONCERN**

Mysuru: Most primary health centres in Mysuru district do not have internet connectivity which is crucial to the delivery of the Covid vaccine as the Co-Win software is the backbone of the immunisation programme. Everything from generation of the list of people to receive the vaccine, to verification, and registration of people vaccinated will be done through the internet-based portal. A senior official said that approximately half of 147 PHCs in the district do not have an internet connection, and that they do not have data on the number of PHCs that lack the facility. Although Co-Win has a mobile app, many rural areas don't have adequate network signal. - Ajith M S


**TAMILNADU POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD**
A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking / South Circle
No.1, Inspector Quarters, TSP 6th Battalion Campus,
New Natham Road, Madurai - 625 014.
email id: sescmdutnphcl@gmail.com Phone: 0452 - 2538035

e- Tender Invitation for Bids No: 28/2020-2021 Dated: 31.12.2020

| Name of Work | Approximate value of work in Lakhs |
|---|---|
| Construction of Working Women Hostel Building at Ponmalai Zone in **TIRUCHIRAPALLI** City for Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostel Corporation Ltd., | ₹. 437.92 + GST 12% |
| Construction of Head Office Building for **KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK** at Erulappapuram, Nagercoil | ₹. 373.60 + GST 12% |

1) For Tender document, visit www.tntenders.gov.in
2) Date and Time for downloading and submission the tender documents: **12.01.2021** from **12.00 Noon** to **25.01.2021** upto **06.00 P.M.**
3) Date and time of opening of the e-tender : **27.01.2021** at **11.15 A.M.**
4) Detailed Tender Notice available in the website www.tnphc.com & www.tnpolice.gov.in

Superintending Engineer, South Circle, TNPHC Ltd.
DIPR/2/TENDER/2021

**UJVN LTD.**
H.O. "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S.Road,Dehradun.-248006
Telephones -0135-2763808 Fax 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website:www.ujvnl.com

**Date Extension Notice-1**

Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of tender invited for "Construction of concrete road, Fencing, Drainage work of Lakhwar Road upto Intake & Provision of Guard Room, Entry Gate for Control room /Intake at Dam Site Juddo of Vyasi HEP (120 MW) in District Dehradun (Uttarakhand)." against NIT No. 10/EE(Civil-III)/VP/TN/ 2020-21 are hereby extended as follows:-
1. **Last date/time for submission of bid on the portal:** 04-01-2021 upto 17.00 Hrs.
2. **Last date & address for submission of original documents: 05-01-2021** upto 17.00 Hrs. in the office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-III), Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar, Dehradun
3. **Date and time of opening of bid on website:** 06-01-2021 at 11.00 Hrs.

All other terms and conditions of tender shall remain unchanged.
Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **http://uktenders.gov.in"**

Executive Engineer (Civil-III)
Vyasi Project Dakpathar, Dehradun
"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

**TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.**

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

| Sl. No | Tender Inviting Authority | Specification No. | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | CE/MM | M.33, M.34 | 2 |

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites : www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in nicgep/app
DIPR/ 3 /Tender/2021

**KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION
No.: KPCL/2020-21/PS/WORK_INDENT10680 Date: 31.12.2020

**BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION** (TWO COVER SYSTEM)
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Tender are invited from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/ Company and having past experience, for **Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of PTZ CCTV Camera 1 No. at Mill reject yard at RTPS Shakthinagar, Raichur.** Interested bidders may submit the bids through e-procurement portal **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for queries/ clarification: **08.01.2021 16:30 Hrs.** Last date for submission of completed bids (2 parts): **11.01.2021 16:00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical bid (Part 1): **13.01.2021 11:00 Hrs.** Opening of Financial bid (Part 2): **15.01.2021 11:00 Hrs.** The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be obtained from the Office of the Superintending Engineer (MM-3), KPCL, RTPS, Shaktinagar – 584 170. Moblie No. 9449596547.

**BELAGAVI SMART CITY LIMITED**
CTS NO: 197, GuruwarPeth, Tilakwadi, Belagavi -590006.
Phone: 0831-2461352, E-mail : bscltd16@gmail.com,
website: www.belagavismartcity.in

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

**Tender No:BSCL/Solar_Rooftop/Tender notification/ 2020-21/1364 Date: 02/01/2021**

On behalf of the Managing Director Belagavi Smart City Limited Belagavi bids are invited from eligible bidders through E-Procurement under KTPP Act 1999 for the below mentioned projects. Further details may be downloaded from the e-procurement website of Government of Karnataka (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.)

**Name of the Work:** Selection of Developer to Design, Finance, Manufacture, Supply, Install, Test, Commission, Operate and Maintain Roof Top Solar PV systems for 25years Discount over Retail Tariff basis for selected Government Buildings in Belagavi. EMD Amount; Rs.2.35/- Lakhs Call-4

(1) The date from which document can be downloaded is-04/01/2021 to 03/02/2021, (2) Last Date for Submission of Bid 04/02/2021 Up to 5.00 PM, (3) Last Date to receive Technical Queries - 18/01/2021 Up to 5.00 PM, (4) Pre Bid Meeting is on 19/01/2021 @11:00AM at BSCL office, (5) Technical Bid Opening is on 05/02/2021 At 11.00 AM, (6) Financial Bid Opening is on 15/02/2021 At 11.00 AM,

**Sd/-Deputy General Manager (Procurement)**
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1024/MCA/2020-21 **Belagavi Smart City Limited**

**KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED**
(Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer KNNL, GRBCC Div No. 2, Hidkal Dam Office Tel. No. 08333-263242 / Fax No. 08333-263405 / e-mail: eegrbc2@gmail/eegrbc2@yahoo.com

No:KNNL /GRBCC-2 /DB/TND / 2020-21/2790Dated:01-01-2021

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through e-procurement system only)

Pre-qualification cum Short Term tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from eligible bidders /contractors, for the works detailed below (as per KTPP Act 2000), on The intending bidders can submit tenders / bids as an individual / Tie up, to be formed prior to the bidding only through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka website, https://www.eproc.karnataka. gov.in under Two Covers. The Two Cover System consists of two sections, the first section is Technical Bid and the second section is Financial Bid. The detailed/blank tender document can be viewed / downloaded from the date & time of publication of tender in e-procurement portal. Stipulated time for submission of tenders/bids, for the works noted herein under, is as per KTPP Rules, Chapter-V, Rule-17, sub rule (2).

IndentNo -30574 , 30575, 30576, 30577 & 30579

1)Estimated Amount Put to Tender-Rs. 295.60 to 431.59 Lakhs , 2)Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)- Rs.2.96 to 4.32 Lakhs

The calendar of events will be as per the schedule in the e-procurement portal.

a)Last Date & Time for tender queries/Clarifications : 05-01-2021 11:30 Hrs,b)Pre bid meeting at Chief Engineer,KNNL(N) Zone Belagavi:06-01-2021 11.00 Hrs onwards, c)Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders: 15-01-2021 17.30 Hrs, d)Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid/tender: 18-01-2021 11.00 Hrs onwards, e)Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid/tender : Will be intimated separately to the Technically qualified bidders

Corrigendum, addendum, etc to the tendered work and any change in, Amount Put to Tender (APT), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and conditions, etc for the above works, will be notified in e-procurement platform and the details of the same can be had from this office.

Further any information / queries / clarifications can be had from the under signed through phone No. 08333-263242, fax No. 08333263405, email: eegrbc2@yahoo/ gmail. com & from helpline Nos of e-portal https://eproc. karnataka.gov.in during office hours, before date & time allowed / notified.

Note: Any change / extensions etc., in the tender schedule (calendar of events) will not be published / advertised through news papers, changes will be updated on/in e-procurement portal only.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
KNNL, GRBCC Div No. 2, Hidkal Dam
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1026/MCA/2020-21

**KARNATAKA STATE NATURAL DISASTER MONITORING CENTRE (KSNDMC)**
(A Regd. Society of Govt. of Karnataka)
Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan Road, Near Yelahanka-Attur Layout, Bengaluru- 560 064. Ph.: 67355139, Fax : 67355198

**E-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

**1) Tender No. KSNDMC/ADM/08/2020 Dt. 03.01.2021.** Supply, installation & integration of Grid connected solar inverter and bi-directional metering cubicle to existing 80KWP roof top solar panels at KSNDMC Campus.

**2) Tender No. KSNDMC/17/MISC/2020.**

AMC of Konica Minolta printers.

Pre-bid meeting shall be held on **15.01.2021.** Last date for submission of the tender : **25.01.2021.** Further the tender document details can be downloaded through e-procurement portal of GoK: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Director**

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ/AEE(C)/2020-21/10229-32 Dt: 01.01.2021

**BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites tenders for Providing security services to KPTCL office complex and premises at Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru by providing 12 Nos. (Twelve) of security guards (4 security guards in three shifts) and 1 No. (one) of security supervisor required for a period of one year from the date of issue of work award through e-procurement mode only.

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through website **"www.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in"** on hyperlink "Activities" 'e-Procurement-KPTCL' **on or after 08.01.2021**

**Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele., Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ(North), Ground Floor, KPTCL Office Complex, KPTCL, , A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-09, Phone: 080-22386686.**

**CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED**
(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Manchanabele Project Division, Ramanagara-562159
Ph: 080-27271259, e-mail: eempdrmgm@gmail.com

No.: EE/MPD/S.T.Notification-08/2020-21 Date: 01-01-2021

***SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION: 08/2020-21***
(Through e-Procurement Portal Only) www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

The CNNL hereby invites Tender for the Works under Different Head of Account. The last date for tender submission is on **18.01.2021 at 4.00 PM.** Two Cover Technical Bid and Single Cover Financial Bid Opening on **19.01.2021 at 4.30 PM** and Two Cover Financial Bid Opening on **25.01.2021 at 11.00 AM**. For further details please contact the above said office or visit the above website.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
**M.P. Division, Ramanagara**
SAD/DIPR/RMN/340/Yakshi/2020-21

**BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020
No. BDA/TPM/CLU-88/1250/2020-21 Date:31.12.2020

**NOTICE**

**Sri Sathish Kumar Dalmiya, No. 832, 7th Cross, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 034** has requested for change of land use in **Sy. No.29/3, 31, 32/1 and 32/2 of Avalahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District** to an extent of 29035.95 Sqmt (07 Acre-07 Guntas) reserved for Agriculture Zone in Revised Master Plan-2015 of Bengaluru. The applicant has requested for change of land use for **Agriculture to Residential use,** it will be helpful for purchase of Residential units for middle and poor class people and it will facilitate generation of employment and taxes to the Government. As required under Section 14-A of Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961, any person/persons affected by this proposal may file his/her/their objections if any/in writting to the Town Planner Member, BDA, Bengaluru **within 15 days from** the date of publication. The objections received after the expiry of 15 days will not be considered.

**Sd/- Town Planner Member, BDA, Bengaluru**
BDA/PRO/CLU/38/2020-21

**MANDYA DIST. CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LTD.**
E-Mail: manmulpurchase@gmail.com, Tele: 08232–274571
IFT NO: MMU/PUR/E-Procu./Admin-Tender-14/2020-21 Date: 31-12-2020

**SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through E-procurement portal only)

Mandya Milk Union Ltd. invites tender for Providing man power for filling milk, curds & butter milk packets into crates & arranging in cold storage & supply of crates to milk DTC vehicles, separation of leakage packets, cleaning of crates & maintenance work for the period of two years-EMD Rs. 6,15,000/-

Tenderer can downloaded documents from: 02-01-2021, Pre bid meeting: 15-01-2021 at 11.30 hrs, Last date of submission of tender: 01-02-2021 at 17.00 hrs, Date of opening of Technical tender: 03-02-2021 after 11.30 hrs & Commercial Bid opening: will be intimated. Interested Tenderer's may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** / website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and also contact helpline No: 080-25501227/25501216, e-mail: **hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com.**

**Note:** For more information contact Deputy Manager (HRD) Mob: 9513888253

**Sd/-**
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**TUMKUR CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,**
N.H. – 206, B.H. ROAD, MALLASANDRA, TUMKUR – 572 107.
Telephone No.: 0816-2206464/2206472/2206142. Web: www.tumul.coop

**E-AUCTION NOTICE**

Scrap materials (As and where is basis) available at Tumkur co-operative Milk Union Ltd., will be auctioned through M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking). The e-Auction is scheduled on **13-01-2021.** The interested Bidders may visit **www.mstcecommerce.com** for further details. Bidders can contact M.S.T.C Ltd at below mentioned address for Registration and further details of E-Auction.

Address: M/s. M.S.T.C. Ltd., No. 19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560 052. Contact Phone No: 080-22260054, 22266417, and 22287356. Fax No: 080-22256365. Tumkur co-operative Milk Union Contact No: 9380865771.

**For Tumkur Co-operative Milk Union Ltd.,**
**Sd/-**
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

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Mines and Geology Minister C C Patil said the government is mulling a ban on mining in and around Krishnaraja Sagar reservoir based on a report by the Central Water and Power Research Station

# BSY's men complain to gen secy against Yatnal

Kateel stresses Yediyurappa will complete remainder of his term; spokesman says issue won't be discussed at party state executive

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa inaugurates the Yuva Janotsava 2020-21 at his home office Krishna in Bengaluru on Saturday

**BANSY KALAPPA** @Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa's supporters within the BJP have complained to party national General Secretary, Karnataka in-charge, Arun Singh, asking him to reign in BJP MLA Basanagouda Yatnal, who has been making statements against the state leadership.

Arun Singh is said to have told them that state party president Nalin Kumar Kateel has already spoken to Yatnal, and that the central disciplinary committee is tracking his statements.

In October, Yatnal had said that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa will not remain in power for long and that the central leadership has given a deadline. When the deadline passed and Yediyurappa was not changed, Yatnal repeated the statement again in December. His latest line is that Yediyurappa will be replaced before Sankranti festival, which falls on January 14.

The love-hate relationship between Yatnal and BJP has been going on for a long time. In 2009, when Yatnal, who was a two-time MP and a former Union minister, was denied a ticket, he switched over to the JDS. He rejoined the BJP in 2013, but was expelled in 2015. His latest entry into the saffron party was in 2018.

D V Sadananda Gowda, who was then the chief minister, had asked Yatnal not to make statements against the party leadership. But the rebel had hit back, saying that he had served in the Atal Behari Vajpayee government and that Sadananda Gowda is his junior.

Party official spokesman Ganesh Karnik said that Yatnal's rebellion will not come up for discussion during the state executive committee meeting on Sunday.

But some insiders suspect that Yatnal is being backed by three to four powerful leaders. "How else can he survive in the party despite making such damaging statements against top leaders," they asked.

When media persons asked Kateel on Saturday whether the chief minister's chair is stable, he replied that it is not under threat and it is not even vacant. There has been no discussion on change in leadership in any party forum and Yediyurappa will continue as CM for the remainder of his term, he added.

> **We suspect that Yatnal is being backed by three to four powerful leaders. How else can he survive in the party despite making such damaging statements against top leaders**
>
> BSY loyalists

## CM to speak to Arun Singh on cabinet

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa said on Saturday that he would hold talks on the cabinet expansion with BJP national General Secretary in-charge of the state Arun Singh. Speaking to reporters, Yediyurappa said, "Arun Singh has come, I will discuss with him." He was responding to a question on the issue.

Yediyurappa later met Singh, who arrived in Bengaluru, ahead of their travel to Shivamogga. Singh is on a visit to the state to participate in a special meeting of the state BJP and also its core committee in Shivamogga on Saturday and Sunday. Yediyurappa will be part of these meetings.

There has been talk within the state BJP that the expansion or reshuffle is likely this month. Yediyurappa has been waiting for some time now to carry out the cabinet exercise. But he was asked by BJP national president J P Nadda during their meeting in New Delhi on November 18, to wait for the clearance from the central leadership.

This exercise is expected to be a tightrope walk for the CM, considering that there are too many aspirants -- from the party old guard to Congress-JD(S) rebels, who are now BJP legislators. The cabinet currently has 27 members, and seven berths are still vacant.

Ruling out leadership change, Yediyurappa earlier this week had asserted that he would remain in the post and complete the term, and that there was no confusion regarding this within the ruling BJP. Arun Singh had also made a similar statement in December saying there was no question of change of leadership.

# Belagavi Kannada flag row: HDK weighs in

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @Bengaluru/Belagavi

FORMER Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy has demanded strict action against those who oppose hoisting of the Kannada flag in Belagavi and has said that the government should send a clear message that Kannadigas are supreme in Karnataka.

Posting a series of tweets on Saturday, Kumaraswamy said, "I have observed the incidents that took place after Kannada activists hoisting the Kannada flag in front of Belagavi City Corporation (BCC) on December 28. Facing problems for hoisting our flag on our land, guarding it, requesting officials not to remove the flag are all an insult to the self-esteem of Kannadigas."

"There were also attempts to set fire to a shop owned by Srinivas Talakar, a Kannada activist who hoisted the flag. There have been attacks on those who fight for the flag in Karnataka and there is no protection for them. This raises questions on the commitment of the government towards the state and language," he tweeted.

"Action should have been initiated against Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) for stating that the flag, a symbol of the oneness of Kannadigas, should be removed before December 31. Now, there have been attempts to attack Kannada activists. A befitting lesson should be taught to those who dare to warn Kannagidas in Karnataka," Kumaraswamy said.

Meanwhile, the MES activists, on Saturday, demanded that the district administration remove the Kannada flag. In a memorandum submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, they termed the hoisting of the flag as 'unscientific'.

The state government should send a clear message that Kannadigas are supreme in Karnataka, says JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy | EXPRESS

Quoting a High Court order, they claimed, "Unauthorised flags cannot be unfurled in front of any government offices. Therefore, the Belagavi DC should take necessary measures to remove the yellow and red flag."

They alleged that a few Kannada activists, at the behest of some local leaders, installed the pole with the Kannada flag in front of BCC for publicity. "Challenging it, we warned of erecting a saffron flag (Maratha flag) beside the yellow-red flag. However, abiding by the instructions of the district administration, we are maintaining silence," they claimed.

**SOME RELIEF?**

***GOVT MAKING EFFORTS TO HELP FARMERS DOUBLE THEIR INCOME: CM***

Bengaluru : While farmers have been protesting in different places against the Centre's the Farm Bills, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said that the state government was working to double farmers' income as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking at the Horticulture Mela on the Bagalkot University of Horticulture campus on Saturday, he said the government will introduce new technological inputs in the fields of processing, storage and packaging of horticulture products in collaboration with Central Food Technological Research Institute and the Indian Institute of Horticulture. He added that the government would take all necessary steps to consider horticulture as an industry. **ENS**

# Congress to stage protest against state government, BBMP tomorrow

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @Bengaluru

THE Congress plans to stage a protest against the maladministration of the state government and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on Monday.

The protest has been organised by Bengaluru's Central, South, and North committees of the party and will be led by former minister and MLA Ramalinga Reddy. The agitators plan a 'BBMP Chalo' from Mysuru Bank Circle, and senior leaders of the party are expected to take part in the protest. Organisers said that the protest is against the tax policy of the BBMP and the maladministration of the State Government.

The demand of the protesters includes providing details of the funds granted for the Corridor-12 project under Bengaluru Mission-2022, giving tax exemption to property owners on the lines of Hyderabad, withdrawing garbage cess, land transport cess, releasing the pending Rs 3,000 crore to BBMP contractors for the last two years, withdrawing hefting charges for construction plan sanctions, maintenance of Indira Canteens, preventing accidents by filling potholes, maintenance of public toilets and making Bengaluru a garbage-free and plastic-free city.

**RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL**

Bengaluru: Former MLA K N Rajanna called on KPCC president D K Shivakumar on Saturday. Rajanna, who had identified himself with the 'rebel camp', and caused much trouble to the coalition candidate in the previous Parliamentary election, is now the president of the Karnataka State Cooperative Apex Bank. Rajanna had caused much embarrassment to the party in the 2019 election by openly going against JDS candidate H D Deve Gowda, who had contested from Tumakuru, and was closely identified with former MP Mudduhanume Gowda. When the then sitting Tumakuru MP Mudduhanume Gowda was denied a ticket to contest, Rajanna had identified himself with a section affiliated to the former. **ENS**

**AFTER UPROAR**

## BBMP drops plans to name roads

**ENS** @Bengaluru

AFTER a section of BJP MPs and the general public voiced their opposition to naming 11 roads in Padarayanpura, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has written to the State Government recommending that the proposal to name roads in the ward after social workers and leaders belonging to a minority community be dropped. The BBMP, at an official meeting in September, decided to name the roads in Ward 135 after personalities belonging to the minority community.

In an official letter dated December 31, BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad cited objections from a section of citizens, including Uttara Kannada MP Anant Kumar Hegde, Bengaluru Central MP P C Mohan and Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya, among others, while recommending that the proposal be dropped. Surya had tweeted on December 31, "After the public uproar over proposed naming of certain roads in a few Muslim dominated Bangalore after only Muslim names, BBMP has dropped the idea (sic)."

**DIGGING FOR TROUBLE**

# 'Sand mining worse than iron ore mining'

**BOSKY KHANNA** @Bengaluru

As the Karnataka government has lifted a ban on sand mining and is all set to announce a new policy, well-known environmental and anti-corruption activist **S R Hiremath** in an interview with *The New Sunday Express* said that sand mining is worse than illegal iron ore mining, which he fought against and won. He also revealed how many politicians are involved in the sand mining mafia and why the policy is being pushed now.

**What is happening in the sand mining industry? What is its impact on the environment, especially because of recurring floods and droughts?**

Sand mining has been reckless and irresponsible, especially since 2014. It is worse than illegal iron ore mining, which had its impact in Ballari and neighbouring districts of Karnataka and Andhara Pradesh. Sand mining has had a devastating effect on the environment and climate. As the reduced water absorption capacity of rivers led to adverse consequences like floods and droughts, the National Green Tribunal had to step in. The industry, to a large extent, switched over to M (manufactured) sand, but then again continued with equally reckless stone quarrying to manufacture sand. The crisis, however, continues.

**What will be the impact of sand mining? As it is, there is a tangible difference in everyday life, affecting people living near such places, and also in cities like Bengaluru.**

The worst sufferers are people living nearby and whose livelihoods are intricately linked to the environment. The worst-affected areas, among others, are: Deodurga taluk in Raichur along Krishna river, Ranebennur taluk in Haveri due to mining in Tungabhadra river, Mandya district where an entire hillock has disappeared and Tavarekere hillock in Bengaluru Urban which borders Magadi taluk of Ramanagar, which has seen worst quarrying. The last two are for manufacturing M sand.

**Sand is a very important component of the construction industry. Can an alternative be found? Do we need a regulatory mechanism?**

The question of striking the balance should be answered not just in the short term concerning only the real estate sector, but also with a long-term perspective, considering a healthy relationship between nature, society and culture. But unfortunately, this perspective is not included in the development approach and that lacuna is leading not only to climate change and its disastrous consequences but also total lack of accountability. These vital issues were raised by us in our PIL (WP No.562/2009) and subsequent writ petitions relating to Goa and Odisha. The apex court, however, addressed them to a limited extent.

**When we have moved from fossil fuel to clean energy, can anything be thought of to replace sand? What are the alternatives?**

M-sand is an alternative, but it is equally disastrous to ecology and local people. Another alternative, which is being explored is recirculation: extracting sand from debris. The real alternative is to use the minimum necessary quantity of sand by controlling our unnecessary aspirations, changing our perspective and lifestyle.

**What should the sand policy have? What should Karnataka adopt from Kerala and Tamil Nadu in its policy?**

The sand policy is not as big a problem as it sounds. But the challenge before the government and citizens is how to effectively deal with the powerful sand mafia, which has well-entrenched corrupt politicians and officials. The most obvious example I can give is the experience of my visit and analysis of the situation in Raichur, especially in Deodurg taluk. The task force headed by the deputy commissioner has failed miserably and MLAs, MPs, their relatives and others are involved in illegal sand mining and related activities. MSIL, MML and Hatti Mines, which have been appointed by the government, should help citizens get sand for their bona fide needs. The situation in Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh is equally bad.

**What is your view on interstate transportation of sand? Which are the most exploited districts in the state?**

Sand is being transported illegally to Maharashtra from Vijayanagar district after it is mined in Bheema river, it goes to Tamil Nadu through the Hosur route and to Kerala from Udupi and surrounding areas. The districts that are facing the brunt of the problem are Haveri, Shivamogga, Koppal, Raichur and Bengaluru Urban. Especially at Taverekere in Bengaluru, quarrying is going on for M-sand and there is an involvement of a former minister.

# STATE'S SAND POLICY AT ODDS WITH KASTURIRANGAN REPORT

IN a major shift from the Karnataka sand policy 2011 and subsequent e-auctioning of sand blocks through amendments to the Karnataka Minor Minerals Concession Rules 2016, the State Government notified the Karnataka Sand Policy 2020 on May 21, 2020.

Under the policy, which is yet to be implemented, powers have been given to Gram Panchayats to issue permits for transportation of sand through bullock-carts and tractors to consumers in villages for their own consumption from I, II, III order streams by collecting a fixed fee. Licences in these streams will be issued to Gram Panchayats by a committee headed by the assistant commissioner at the taluk level. From streams of IV, V and VI order, the sand blocks will be allotted to Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited (southern parts of Karnataka and Hatti Gold Mines (northern parts of Karnataka) for extraction, transportation, stocking and supply of sand to consumers on a fixed rate. For the first time, the State has also allowed extraction of sand from tanks, backwaters of reservoirs etc.

**DR U V SINGH,** Former IFS officer

As per the estimation of the Mines Department, around 45 million metric tonnes (MMT) of sand is required in the State per year. Of this, around 30 MMT is produced and supplied as manufactured sand (M-sand). About 4.5 MMT of natural sand is supplied legally from various sources. Some sand comes from other states. There is a gap of about 8.5-10 MMT of sand which is supplied and procured illegally . Some agencies put the requirement between 60 and 70 MMT per year.

Sand mining leads to destruction of environment. Development versus environment is one of the great debates of our times and the preservation of Western Ghats is one such. The pristine Ghats are in the limelight because of a report by the high-level working group (HLWG) headed by space scientist Dr K Kasturirangan that sought declaration of 37 per cent of the area, or 1,533 villages, in the Ghats as ecologically sensitive. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) too has given a directive to the Centre to implement the report by December-end 2020. One of the recommendations of the report is a complete ban on mining, quarrying and mining of sand in ecologically sensitive areas. This will be in direct conflict with Sand Policy 2020. If the report is implemented, all the 1,533 villages will not be able to make use of powers given to Gram Panchayats.

The state's Sand Policy 2020 is on the lines Andhra Pradesh's policy and shifts from past policies by classifying the streams as I, II, II, IV, V and VI. The classification will not stand legal scrutiny if the streams are not notified under relevant laws.

Sand mining in evergreen and semi-evergreen forests would largely affect the riparian ecosystem, fauna and flora. A riparian ecosystem is a vegetated area near a stream, usually thickly forested, which helps shade and partially protect the stream. It plays a key role in increasing water quality in associated streams, rivers, lakes and estuaries. Sand mining will destroy them, enhance the drying of perennial steams leading to extinction of amphibians, fish and other water habitat fauna/flora.

# 2 criminals behind 35 burglaries held

Booty worth ₹2.25cr recovered; gang active in Bengaluru, Belagavi, Hyderabad and Goa

The gold ornaments recovered from two burglars, in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHIRAM BN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a major bust of an interstate burglary ring, Central Crime Branch (CCB) police have arrested two men, including the kingpin, and recovered stolen articles worth Rs 2.25 crore, including 4 kg of gold ornaments. The gang was involved in 35 cases.

The miscreants used to come to Bengaluru from Uttar Pradesh in cars and commit burglaries in and round the city, a senior police officer said. The accused are Fayyum alias ATM Fayyum (35), the prime accused, and Murasaleem Mohammed alias Saleem (42), both from Moradabad, UP.

Apart from Bengaluru, Fayyum and his associates had also committed burglaries in Belagavi, Hyderabad and Goa, the officer said adding that the duo were caught after they received a tip-off that Fayyum and one of his associate had come to the city to commit crimes.

The officer said that during interrogation, Fayyum disclosed that he used to sell the stolen goods in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Gurgaon with the help of his associate Ashok Lati, who is lodged in a Gurgaon jail on murder charges. Based on his information, police recovered the gold ornaments.

A notorious criminal, Fayyum was arrested by the UP police in 2016, and is involved in 40 cases, including murder, attempt to murder, robbery and other cases. He had come out on bail in 2017.

EXPRESS READ

### Man slits wife's throat in front of kids

Bengaluru: Hennur police on Saturday arrested a 47-year-old man for killing his wife by slitting her throat during a domestic squabble on Friday night. The deceased is Dhupi Devi (45), wife of Ram Bahadur, both from Nepal. The couple was residing in Horamavu with their four children. Ram was working at an ice factory. Police said Ram slit Dhupi's throat with a knife in front of their two sons and two daughters. When the children raised an alarm, the neighbours rushed to the spot and found the woman lying in a pool of blood. They alerted the police, however, Ram had already escaped. The police tracked Bahadur's phone location and arrested him on Saturday morning. ENS

# WOMEN EMPLOYEES CAN WORK BEYOND 8 PM, BUT WITH RIDERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BUT this comes with several conditions — the employer should appoint additional staff to allow every employee to avail one day holiday in a week on a rotation basis.

"The details of every employee shall be exhibited by the employer at a conspicuous place in the shop or commercial establishment. Every employer shall exhibit details of the employees who are on holiday/leave on daily basis. The wages, including overtime wages of the employees, shall be credited to their savings bank account as prescribed under the Payments of wages Act, 1963," the notification states.

"An employer shall not require or allow any person employed to work therein for more than eight hours in any day and forty-eight hours in any week. The period of work, including overtime, shall not exceed 10 hours in any day and fifty hours in a period of three continuing months. If employees are found working on any holiday or after normal duty hours without proper indent of overtime, penal action shall be initiated against the employer/manager," the notification says.

Though women employees are allowed to work beyond 8 pm on any day in normal circumstances, an employer after obtaining written consent from a women employee, may allow her to work between 8 pm and 6 am, subject to providing adequate protection. Transport arrangements should also be provided to woman employees working in shifts and a notice must be exhibited at the main entrance of the establishment indicating the availability of the transport. The employer should also constitute an internal complaints committee against sexual harassment of women and the committee should be operative.

Besides, the notification also states that the employees should be provided with a restroom, washroom, safety lockers and other basic amenities.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients SRI KIRAN .G AND SMT. SHANTHAKUMARI .H.S are intending to purchase the Northern Portion of residential property bearing Site No.119 with building, formed in property/survey No. 40, from the vendor Sri Ramakrishnaiah Venkataramaiah, more fully described in the schedule hereunder. Any person/s having any claims of whatsoever nature, in respect of the Schedule Property or any portion thereof, may write to the undersigned within 15 (Fifteen) days of issuance of this notice with documentary evidence on which basis they are making their claims in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner whatsoever, failing which our client shall move to get registered sale deed in their names on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature in respect of the Schedule Property.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF the Northern Portion of residential property bearing Site No. 119, formed in property/ survey No.40, Present BBMP Katha No.130/40/119, Vidyaranyapura BBMP Ward No.09, situated at Narasipura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet along with RCC roofed houses, together with all types of civic amenities and bounded on;

**EAST BY** : Site No. 118,
**WEST BY** : Road,
**NORTH BY:** Site No.96,
**SOUTH BY:** Remaining of Site No.119.

**SRI NANDI ASSOCIATES**, Advocates
Rep. by its **SIDDANANJAPPA. M.N.**
No.1904, Prashanth Nagar Main Road, 3rd Cross, Bengaluru-560079. Ph: 9731652398
Dated: 01/01/2021

Government of Karnataka
## Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Davanagere

No.: EE:R.D.W.&S.D.:D//A.E-2/J.J.M.Tender:2020-21:857
Date: 31.12.2020

### Short-Term Tender Notice
(Through e-Procurement )

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Itemwar tenders are invited through e-procurement portal in KW Forms as per rules of the Department from registered, eligible contractors who are registered in e-procurement for works of supply of drinking water scheme approved under Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme (providing Tap Connection to Houses) in Davanagere Taluk of Davanagere District for the year 2020-21. Last date for submission of filled tenders through e-procurement portal: 15.01.2021 up to 5.00 PM. Further details can be obtained from phone no. of this office: 08192-262126 or from website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**R.D.W. & S. Division, Davanagere**

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/560/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2020–21

## SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

**Employment Notice No. CMP/04/GAZ/2020**

South Western Railway, Mysuru Division, proposes to engage full time Medical Practitioners (Specialists) and GDMO on contract basis for SWR, Mysuru Division, Mysuru for a period of **one year or less or till regular incumbent joins** whichever is earlier subject to following terms and conditions.

**1) Eligibility Criteria / Qualification: (i) Contract Medical Practitioner (Specialist)** : The candidate should possess the qualification of MBBS plus MD/DNB (Medicine or Anesthesiologist) with registration in Medical Council and completed internship. **(ii) Contract Medical Practitioner (GDMO):** The candidate should possess the qualification of MBBS with registration in Medical Council and completed internship.

** PG qualification is preferable but in case of non availability of PG qualification candidate, CMP without PG qualification will be considered and Honorarium will be as per Sl. No.(6).

**2) Age : i)** For Open Market Candidate : Should not have completed more than 50 years as on 01.01.2021. **ii)** For Retired Railway Doctors / Retired State Government Medical Officers : Upto the age of 65 years reckoned on 01.01.2021. **3) No. of Vacancies :** GDMO & CMP (Specialist) : Total-02 Posts. **4) Place at which service required :** Railway Hospital, Mysuru. **5) Venue and Date of Walk-in-Interview :** Office of the Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, 1st Floor, DRM Office, Irwin Road, Mysuru. **6) Honorarium :** i) For Open Market Candidates : GDMO : Rs. 75,000/- Per month fixed less statutory deduction. ii) For Open Market Candidates : CMP (Specialists) : Rs. 95,000/- per month fixed less statutory deduction for one year. iii) For Retired Railway Doctors / Retired Govt. Medical Officers of State Government : Fixed remuneration of Rs. 46,000/- per month (Subject to the condition that remuneration + pension drawn by retired railway doctors / retired govt. medical officers of State Government should not exceed the last pay drawn).

Date & Time of Walk-In-Interview :
**21.01.2021 (Thursday) from 11.00 hrs onwards upto 17:00 hrs.**

For details log on:
**http://www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in**

**Senior Divisional Personnel Officer**
PUB/231/AAAL/PRB/SWR/2020-21 **Mysuru**

Government of Karnataka
**(Infrastructure Development, Ports & Inland Water Transport Department)**
**Office of the Marine Engineer, Department of Ports & IWT, Baithkhol, Karwar- 581302**
NO.ME/GNL/CR-03/2020 Date: 01.01.2021

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE- 2nd Call (Only in E-Procurement) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)**

Tender is invited by the undersigned in e-Procurement portal for the mentioned work. The registered firms/contractors who have executed and are having experience in similar nature of work can participate in the Tender through e-Procurement portal. To obtain more information, please visit the website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in (Work Estimate No: KPWD/2020-21/PM/WORK_INDENT133116/CALL-2)**

**Name of work:** (1) Providing 2 Nos. of minimum 30 Ton Bollard pull capacity each Tug service on hire basis for berthing and unberthing of ships, Search and Rescue (SAR) operations and other services for a period of 3 years with extension of 2 more years, if required, (as per same terms and conditions) by the port authority at Karwar Port, Uttara Kannada round the clock (24 hrs a day) - Fuel and fresh water supply to the tug on Port account and nil charges towards mobilization/ demobilization. (GST shall be paid separately).

**Amount put to Tender: Rs. 208050000.00, EMD Rs. 20.85 Lakhs (Rs. 1.00 Lakh in e-Payment + Rs. 19.85 Lakhs as mentioned in bid document). Last date for Quarries: 08.01.2021 @ 17.30 hours. Last date for receipt for Tender: 11.01.2021 @ 17.30 hours.**

For further details kindly refer the e-procurement portal for Addendum and other relevant information regarding this tender. For general enquiries, prospective bidders may contact the undersigned office Phone No. 08382-295580 during working hours, before last date of quarries.

**Sd/- Marine Engineer,**
DIPR/ADK/MCA/553/20-21 dt. 2.1.2021 **Ports & Inland Water Transport, Karwar**

Government of Karnataka
## Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department Division, Haveri

No. 033/PB/Tnd/3054 flood/2020-21/ 6239 Date: 01-01-2021

### Forwarded Tender Publish No-11

The below dates were re-assigned for the works Sl No. 23 (W.I.No. 130195) vide this office tender publish No.033/PB/Tnd/5054 flood/2019-20/4062 Dated: 16-10-2019, forwarded tender notification No.1, No,4353 Dtd, 23-10-2019, forwarded tender notification No.2, No,4670 Dtd, 02-11-2019, forwarded tender notification No.3, No,5960 Dtd, 17-12-2019, forwarded tender notification No.4, No,6037 Dtd, 19-12-2019, forwarded tender notification No.5, No,6262 Dtd, 27-12-2019, forwarded tender notification No.6, No,6807 Dtd, 18-01-2020, forwarded tender notification No.7, No,7437 Dtd, 12-02-2020, forwarded tender notification No.8, No,8383 Dtd, 18-03-2020, forwarded tender notification No.9, No.562 Dtd, 20-05-2020, forwarded tender notification No.10, No.783 Dtd, 02-06-2020. (A) Last date & time for receipt of tender.Dtd: 15-01-2021 upto 4:00 PM (B) Last date & time for opening of tender.Dtd: 16-01-2021 @ 4:30 PM (C) Financial bid opening date Dtd: 18-01-2021 @ 4:30 PM. No changes with regard to above dates.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
DIPR/Haveri/MCA/254/2020-21 **PWD Division, Haveri**

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## COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURIES

6th Floor, KPCL Building, Palace Road, Bengalur-560001. Ph: 080-22028203. Fax: 080-22028201

**RFP FOR Selection of an agency for providing Housekeeping staff services at Treasury Offices.**

Department of Treasuries invites tender for **RFP for procurement of Housekeeping staff services at Treasury Offices.** Tender details are available at the e-Procurement platform & tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**DIPR/DDU/59/MCA/2020-21**

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client **Mr. Sibgath Ulla Khan,** S/o. Mr. Abdul Ulla Khan, No.3452, C Raheem Compound, Bangarpet, Kolar - 563114 is the absolute owner in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the (1) Property bearing Khatha No.1139/3839/3452, Old Municipal No.1460/3, situated at C-Rahim Garden, Bangarpet Town, Bangarpet, Measuring east to west 23 feet and north to south 35 feet, all measuring 805 Sq. feet and (2) Property bearing Khatha No.1139/3839/3452, Old Municipal No.1460/3, situated at C-Rahim Garden, Bangarpet Town, Bangarpet, Measuring east to west 6 feet and north to south 35 feet, all measuring 210 Sq. feet. My client has lost the following Original Deed:-

01. Mehar Deed dated 11.03.1971 executed by C M Sheriff in favour of Saleemabi, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangarpet vide Document No.4534/70-71.
02. Sale Deed dated 20.05.2005 executed by Saleemabi in favour of Sigbathulla Khan, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangarpet vide Document No.1792/2005-06.
03. Gift Deed dated 16.11.2007 executed by Sigbathulla Khan in favour of Fatheema Begum, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangarpet vide Document No.4149/2007-08.
04. Gift Deed dated 07.11.2012 executed by Fatheema Begum in favour of Sigbathulla Khan, registered on 09.11.2012 in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangarpet vide Document No.7932/2012-13.

If anybody finds the aforesaid deed please hand over to me or at Mr. Sibgath Ulla Khan, S/o. Mr. Abdul Ulla Khan, No.3452, C Raheem Compound, Bangarpet, Kolar - 563114 or please contact by Phone: 8105296671.

**ASHUTOSH K L, Advocate**
Chambers: No. 7 3rd Floor, Kasturi Apartment, 35/11, Langford Road Cross, Shanthinagar, Bangalore – 560 025. Mob: 8105296671

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

## TUMKUR CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,

N.H. – 206, B.H. ROAD, MALLASANDRA, TUMKUR – 572 107.
Phone: 0816-2206297/142/490/464, Email: tmupur99@gmail.com, Fax: 0816-2206760

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS** (Tender Notification only through E-procurement)

Tumkur Co-operative Milk Producers Societies Union Ltd., Tumkur invites E-Procurement tenders two cover system (Technical & Financial bid) from eligible tenderers for the service contract listed below:

| Sl. No. | E-Procurement Tender No. & Date | Materials Details | E.M.D Amount Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8711 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Supply of 500 ML Corrugated Box- 8,00,000 Nos. | 2,88,000-00 |
| 2 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8712 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Supply of Kluber Oil -30Cans, Lubrication grease -20 kg and paste -15 Cans. | 12,700-00 |
| 3 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8713 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Supply of LED Board, Vinyl Sun Board pasting, Vinyl Sticker, Glow sign Board (Shop Branding) on ARC Basis for Mumbai Market Area, Total– 7,500 Sq. ft. | 31,250-00 |
| 4 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8714 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Supply of Cashew Splits on ARC Basis – 2,000 Kgs. | 40,000-00 |
| 5 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8715 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Bi-annual contract vehicle for purchase section to carry goods and office work 1.5 ton capacity. | 25,000-00 |
| 6 | KMF/TCMU/PUR/2020-21/ IND8716 Dt: 29-12-2020 | Supply of Per Acetic Acid (15%) – 5,000 Kgs. | 19,000-00 |

1. Tender Schedule Downloading Date: **From 01-01-2021 to 16-01-2021 / 2.00 P.M.**
2. Last Date for Submission of Tender: **16-01-2021 / 2.00 P.M.**
3. Time & Date of Opening of Technical Tender Bid (Cover-1): **18-01-2021 / 2.30 P.M.**
4. Web Site Address For E-tender: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**For Tumkur Co-operative Milk Union Ltd.,**
**Sd/-**
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

## यू0 पी0 प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि0

(उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार का उपक्रम) CIN:U15209UP1976SGC004285
पंजीकृत कार्यालय : बांधा तट गोमती बैराज, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ-226010
दूरभाष : 0522-2308945/6/7/8 ई-मेल : uppcl.ho@gmail.com, Website : upprojects.org

पत्र सं0 5360/ पी0सी0एल0/मुख्यालय/ई-टेण्डर दिनांक 02/01/2021

### राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक अल्प कालीन ई-निविदा

यू0पी0 प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि0, लखनऊ को ''जल जीवन मिशन 100 दिन योजनान्तर्गत'' उत्तर प्रदेश के विभिन्न जनपदों के पैकेजवार विद्यालयों, आंगनवाड़ी केन्द्रों एवं आश्रमशालाओं में शुद्ध पेयजल उपलब्ध कराये जाने के कार्यो हेतु इस कार्यालय के राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक निविदा संख्या-87/यू0पी0पी0सी0एल0/ GMT/ई-टेण्डर/2020/21 दिनांक 02.01.2021 द्वारा ई-निविदायें मूल निर्माता अथवा उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि फर्मो से आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। यह निविदायें www.http://etender.up.nic.in की वेबसाइट पर दिनांक 04.01.2021 से उपलब्ध रहेगी, जिसको दिनांक 04.01.2021 से 20.01.2021 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड / अपलोड किया जा सकता है एवं निविदा दिनांक 20.01.2021 को सांय 4.00 बजे खोली जायेगी। निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य विवरण व शर्ते कारपोरेशन की वेबसाइट www.upprojects.org पर देखा जा सकता है।

महाप्रबन्धक (तक0 एवं परि0)

## SOUTHERN RAILWAY

**MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**
**NOTICE No: 01/2021**

Manual Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous Scrap, other Misc scrap of small value lots.

| Manual Auction conducted by | Date of Auction for the Month of January 2021 | Materials for Auction |
|---|---|---|
| Sr. DMM / Salem | 18.01.2021 | The details of item to be sold in Manual Auction will be available with the auction conducting officer / respective Divisional Stores Officer. |
| Sr. DMM / Chennai | 19.01.2021 | |
| Sr. DMM / Trivandrum | 20.01.2021 | |
| Sr. DMM / Palghat | 21.01.2021 | |
| Sr. DMM / Trichy | 22.01.2021 | |
| Sr. DMM / Trichy (for Madurai Divn. @ Trichy) | 22.01.2021 | |

**All other Auction Schedule for January 2021 remains unaltered**

For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our Website: **https://www.ireps.gov.in** → E-Auction → Sale → Live Auctions.

**Principal Chief Materials Manager**

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## ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಉತ್ತರ) ಕಚೇರಿ,
ಹು–ಧಾ.ಮ.ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ನಂ. ಎಚ್‌ಡಿಎಮ್‌ಸಿ/61/12/2020–21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02–01–2021

### ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸನ್ 2020–21 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿಯ ಅನುದಾನ, ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ PWD / HDMC / ಇತರೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, 2ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, ಮತ್ತು 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯು ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

**ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು : 1) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ–109864 ರೂ. 6.00ಲಕ್ಷ 2) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ– 103019 ರೂ. 27.38 ಲಕ್ಷ**

ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಅವಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಉತ್ತರ) ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಚೇರಿಯ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836 2213834ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿ: 04–01–2021 ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 11–01–2021 ರಂದು ಸಾ. 4.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. (2) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 12–01–2021 ರಂದು ಮು. 11.30 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಉತ್ತರ)
ಹು–ಧಾ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾ/ಅಲಕನಂದ/588/2020–21

## SOUTHERN RAILWAY

TRIVANDRUM (WORKS BRANCH)
**E-TENDER NOTICE No. V / W / TVC / 12 / 2020**
**Dated: 29.12.2020**

Divisional Railway Manager / Works Branch / Trivandrum Division, Trivandrum-14 invites online tenders for the following works as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderer(s) / contractor(s) to apply for e-tender for WORKS in Trivandrum Division, need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

| Sl. No. | Description |
|---|---|
| 1 | Brightening of Service Buildings, Gate lodges & pale fencing in Ernakulam - Alleppey Section and Special treatment to RCC buildings in Arur - Alleppey Section; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **42.05**; EMD: ₹ **84100**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 2 | Repairs to quarters in Alleppey - Type I - 24 nos, Type II - 14 nos & Type III-7 nos; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **49.50**; EMD: ₹ **99000**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 3 | Ernakulam - Alleppey section : Brightening of staff quarters and PF shelters; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **36.64**; EMD: ₹ **73300**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 4 | Painting winch, Lifting barriers, opening & repairs of LCs, Warning boards etc. at LCs in Alleppey P.Way section; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **44.98**; EMD: ₹ **90000**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 5 | Improvement of road surface at LCs in Alleppey P.Way section; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **60.49**; EMD: ₹ **121000**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 6 | Ernakulam - Alleppey Section:- Clearing out of silt, muck, debris, etc. from minor bridges; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **14.22**; EMD: ₹ **28400**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 7 | Alleppey P.Way section - Painting, ERC greacing, boxing, clearing bushes & other maintenance works in P.Way to eliminate deficiencies, Trolley refuges; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **96.24**; EMD: ₹ **192500**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| 8 | Brightening of bridges in Ernakulam - Alleppey section; Approx. Value in lakh: ₹ **8.30**; EMD: ₹ **16600**; Period of Completion in Months: **THREE** |
| | **Tender Closing date and time:** Sl.No: 1 to 8: **12.01.2021 at 11.00 hrs.;** |

Details of approximate value of tender, EMD & location are given on the e-portal, **www.ireps.gov.in**. For Details of bid submission, please refer website portal **www.ireps.gov.in**.

**Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-ordination / Trivandrum-14**

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## MAHILA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LIMITED.

Admin Office : No. 14, South End Road, Sheshdripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020.
Phone : 080-2356 2229, 2346 0051, Mobile : 98804 53464.

### POSSESSION NOTICE

**Possession of Immovable Proper es U/S 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 r/w Rule 8(1)**

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.,** having its **Head Office at No.14, South End Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020,** being the secured creditor under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest **(Enforcement)** Rules, 2002 issued **Demand Notice dated 16-01-2020** U/S 13(2) of the said Act calling upon the Borrowers and or/Guarantors listed hereunder to repay the amounts mentioned against their names within **60 days** from the receipt of the said notice.

**Basaveswara Nagar Branch**

**I.P. Loan A/c No : IPL-576**

**Name of the Borrower : Smt. H. V. Bhagya, W/o. D. C. K. Kalegowda,** No. 1691, 7th Main, 7th Cross, RPC Layout, Bengaluru - 560 040. **Name of the Guarantor : 1. Sri. D. C. K. Kalegowda, S/o. Channegowda,** No. 1691, 7th Main, 7th Cross, RPC Layout, Bengaluru - 560 040. **2. Sri. N. S. Ramakrishna, S/o. Siddegowda,** No. 1478, 28th Main, Ashoka Road, Poorna Chandra Layout (D-Group Layout), Bengaluru - 560 091.

**Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice : Rs. 1,77,64,060/- as on 16-01-2020,** plus further interest and other charges.

The said Borrowers and or/Guarantors mentioned herein above having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to them and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of **SARFAESI** Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest **(Enforcement)** Rule, 2002 on this the **30th day of December of the year 2020.**

The said Borrowers and or/Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subjected to the charge of the **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd., for an amount of Rs. 1,98,32,469/- with further interest and other charges from 31-12-2020.** The Borrowers and or/Guarantors attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing **Corporation No. 211, PID No. 34-127-211, Situated at 7th 'A' Main Road, Hampinagara, Kalyan HBCS, RPC Layout, BBMP Ward No. 34, Benagluru,** Measuring **East to West :** (38'-0" + 46'-0")/2 feets and **North to South :** 50'-0" feets, having a total extent of 2100 square feets and bounded on the **East by :** Site No. 212, **West by :** Trust Board Site No. 1482, **North by :** Site No. 249, **South by :** 30 Ft Road.

**Date : 31-12-2020**
**Place : Bengaluru.**

**Sd/- Authorised Officer**
**Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bengaluru - 560 020.**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that, our client intends to PURCHASE the immovable properties more fully described in the schedule property hereunder from its present owner i.e., Mrs. Shafia Hussaini, Wife of Mr. Syed Hafizur Rehaman Hussaini, residing at No.441/32, 1st Cross, 8th Main, Wilson Garden, Bangalore 560027.

Any persons, financial institutions having any sort of claim / rights / interest / charge on the below said property or any objections for the said sale of the property may file their objections in writing along with supporting documents, addressed to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be construed that there are no claims of any sort over the below said properties and our client shall be advised to proceed with the proposed transaction. Any claims thereafter shall not be entertained.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of immovable property being a vacant residential Site bearing No.90, having BBMP Kath No. 309/4910/90, carved out of Sy. No.45/5 of Gottigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose, vide Official Memorandum bearing No. DIS.ALN.SR(S)143/1992-93, dated 20.10.1992 by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore and presently within BBMP Limits, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 80 feet, totally measuring 4000 square feet and bounded on :

East by : Site No.89, West by : Site No.91,
North by : Road, South by : Site No.85.

Sd/- **S.M. MANJUNATHA**, Advocate,
**LAW PARK ASSOCIATES,**
No.19/A-1, 14th 'B' Cross, 2nd 'A' Main, 6th Sector, HSR Layout,
Bangalore-560 102. +91 80 41715959 email: helpdesk@lawpark.in

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**IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT NELAMANGALA**
**CRL. MISC No. 378 OF 2020**

**BETWEEN: 1. Sri Dasegowda** S/o Late Chittaiah, aged about 65 years, **2. Sri Siddagangaiah** S/o Late Chittaiah, aged about 59 years, **3. Sri Chikkakariyappa** S/o Late Chittaiah, aged about 54 years, all are R/o Chandanahosahalli Village, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District-562123. ... **PETITIONER**

**AND: Thahasildar**, Nelamangala Taluk ... **RESPONDENT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed the above Petition **UNDER SECTION 13(3) OF REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS ACT 1969** for seeking direction to the respondent authorities to issue death certificate of their **Father** by name **Chittaiah S/o Late Dasanna** was died on **20-08-1987** in Petitioner's house and the Hon'ble Court has posted the above petition to **15.01.2021** for hearing of the petition and that if any person/s desire to oppose the said Petition or claim or interest shall appear before the Hon'ble Court in person or by pleader duly instructed at 11 a.m. failing which the above said petition will be disposed on enquiry.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 18-12-2020.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Court of the Civil Judge (Junior Division) and JMFC, Nelamangala.

Advocate for petitioner: **B.T. MOHAN KUMAR,**
#251, Spoorthi Law Associates, Panemanna Layout,
Sondekoppa Road, Nelamangala Town 562123.

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**IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE 1st ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT NELAMANGALA**
**CRL. MISC No. 401 OF 2020**

**BETWEEN: Sri S. Rajanna** S/o Late Siddagangappa, aged about 48 years, R/at Vajarahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk. ... **PETITIONER**

**AND: The Thahasildar,** Registrar of Births and Deaths, Nelamangala Taluk, Nelamangala ... **RESPONDENT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed the above Petition UNDER SECTION 13(3) OF REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS ACT 1969 for seeking direction to the respondent authorities to issue death certificate of his **GRANDMOTHER** by name **KEMPAMMA W/o Late Dasegowda** was died on **05.06.1985** in Petitioner's house and the Hon'ble Court has posted the above petition to **21.01.2021** for hearing of the petition and that if any person/s desire to oppose the said Petition or claim or interest shall appear before the Hon'ble Court in person or by pleader duly instructed at 11 a.m. failing which the above said petition will be disposed on enquiry.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 31-12-2020.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Court of the Civil Judge (Junior Division) and JMFC, Nelamangala.

Advocate for petitioner: **B. Ramakrishna,**
Kunigal Bypass, Nelamangala Town.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is negotiating/proposes to purchase the Schedule property from **(1) SMT. KEERTANA REDDY,** aged about 53 years, D/o Late J.A.S. Pathy and Smt. Ashwathamma, **(2) SRI KARAN REDDY S.,** aged about 29 years, **(3) SRI CHIRAG REDDY S.,** aged about 26 years, both sons of Smt. Keertana Reddy and Grand sons of Late J.A.S. Pathy and Smt. Ashwathamma, .and the said Smt. Keeratana Reddy represents that she has acquired the schedule property by way of WILL dated 17-11-2018, and the said WILL has been Registered after death of the late Ashwathamma, which registered as document No. HLS-3-00213/2018-19 dated 14-02-2019 and stored in CD No. HLSD194 registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Halasur, Bangalore, further represents that schedule property was originally allotted to late J.S.A. Pathy by the Bangalore City Improvement Trust Board vide allotment letter No.B5-14-KLM/IV/74 dated 24-09-1974 and the Secretary, Bangalore Development Authority, has executed LCSA vide registered No.2932/1982-82 of Book-I volume 1869 at pages 48-54 dated 18-08-1982 And Absolute Sale Deed which registered as document No.3619/2000-01 of Book-I Volume 4544 at pages 181-183 dated 04-08-2000 both registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk. Any person/s having any objection/s, claims, share, maintenance, demand, interest, possession, authority whatsoever manner including previous agreement holders or General power of attorney holders may claim their objections if any with documentary evidence within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of this public notice, thereafter my client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction.

**SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the RESIDENTIAL HOUSE on the BDA Site bearing No. No.14, present Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike New Municipal No.14, the Unique Property ID No. (PID) allotted to this property is 68-6-14, in the layout formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, situated at 4TH BLOCK, KORAMANGALA EXTENSION BANGALORE-560 034 presently coming under Old Ward No.68, New Ward No.151 of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 58 feet, in all measuring 2320 Square Feet along with the Residential House constructed thereon and together with all rights, appurtances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the : East by : Site No.13, West by : Site No.15, North by: Road, South by: Site No.3.

**V. PADMANABHA NAIDU.,** Advocate
No.127/34, 7th Cross 4th Main,
Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560 027
(M) 9901051331 Dated 02-01-2021

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the Public that we, **Dr. Rajkumar S. Amaravathi** and **Mrs. Shirly Rajkumar,** are the absolute owners in exclusive possession of Site bearing No. 7, House List Khatha No. 201/7, Horamavu Village, K.R. Pura Hobli, Byatarayanapura Zone, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West: 40 Feet, North to South: 60 Feet, and fully enclosed by a compound wall bounded on the East by property No. 8, West by: Property No. 6, North by: Private Property, South by: Road. Purchased under a Registered Sale Deed dated: 15.11.2007, Document No. 2877/2007, C.D. No. BNSD10 in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar Banaswadi, Bangalore.

Any person attempting to deal with this Property in any manner shall be doing so at his own Risk and Costs.

**Anjana Sundar, Advocate**
No.170, 18th Cross, M.C. Layout,
Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040.

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**HDFC Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited**

**Regd. Office: Ramon House, H T Parekh Marg, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Churchgate, Mumbai 400020.**
**Regional Office : HDFC Ltd, HDFC House, No -51, Kasturba Road, Bangalore -560001.**
**Tel: 080-41182000, CIN L70100MH1977PLC019916,**
**Website: www.hdfc.com, Email:customercare.bang@hdfc.com**

## E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE (Sale through e-bidding only)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules,2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) indicated in Column (A) that the below described immovable property(ties) described in Column (C) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken as described in column (D) by the Authorized Officer of Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Ltd) Secured Creditor, will be sold on"As is where is","As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the details mentioned below :

Notice is hereby given to Borrower / Mortgagor(s) / legal heirs, legal representatives (whether known or unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s) and assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s)(since deceased), as the case may be, indicated in Column (A) under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Ltd) Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.HDFC.Com**

| | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | (E&F) | (G) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sl No | Name/s of Borrower(s)/ Mortgager(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ | Outstanding dues to be recovered (Secured Debt) (Rs.)* | Description of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset (1 Sq. mtr. is equivalent to 10.76 Sq.ft) | Type of Possession | Reserve Price (Rs.) ---------------- Earnest Money Deposit (Rs) | Date of Auction and Time |
| 1 | Mr. Pradeep Reddy E (Borrower) Mrs. Prema Reddy (Co-Borrower) Loan A/c No: 622688117 & 624887968 | Rs.31,41,799/- in Loan Account No.622688117 and Rs.53,431/- in Loan Account No.624887968 totally accruing to Rs.31,95,230/-(Rupees Thirty One Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Only) due as on 30.11.2019 | All that piece and parcel of the Converted land bearing Survey No.13/6 Measuring 1 Acre 3 Guntas, situated at Rachanamadu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk in the Layout "PRARTHANA ENCLAVE". All that piece and parcel of the residential Site bearing No.5 measuring East to West (Northern Side): 30 ft; East to West (Southern Side); 30 Ft; North to South (Eastern Side) :42.3 ft, North to South (Western Side):42.2 ft totally measuring to an extent of 1266 sq.ft formed out of Sy.No.13/5 situated at Rachanamadu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and the Layout formed therein and called as " PRARTHANA ENCLAVE" and having BBMP Katha No.1148/13/5 and bounded by: East by : Site No.4; West by : Site No.6; North by : Private Property: And, South by : Road and construction thereon. | Physical Possession | Rs. 34,00,000/- ( Rupees Thirty Four Lakhs Only) ---------------------- Rs.3,40,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Forty Thousand Only) | Date: 04.02.2021 12 PM TO 12.30 PM |

**1. Inspection Date & Time: 16.01.2021 to 23.01.2021 between 11.AM TO 4.PM**
**2. Minimum bid increment amount: Rs.20,000/-**
**3. EMD Amount Submission on or before : 02.02.2021 before 5.00 PM.**
***together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and / or realisation thereof.**
**To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer of HDFC Ltd, there are no encumbrances in respect of the above immovable properties / Secured Assets.**

Date: 03.01.2021
Place: Bengaluru

For Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer under SARFAESI Act, 2002

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## SOUTHERN RAILWAY
### CHENNAI - 600 023

**MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**
**E-TENDER NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF STORES**
**No. E-15/2020**

Firms are requested to login to **https://www.ireps.gov.in → login → E.Tender goods & services (new)** and quote against these tenders. Manual quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. Closing time for all tenders **14:30 hours.**

| Sl. No. | Tender No. | Description | Due date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 44201001 | BOLSTER SPRING OUTER | 04.01.21 |
| 2 | 26201012 | SWITCH EARTHING WITH KEY BOX (HOM) | 11.01.21 |
| 3 | 26202203 | EQUALISER FOR WAG-7 LOCOS,TO CLW | 11.01.21 |
| 4 | 26200047 | HIGH TENSILE TRANSITION CB COUPLER FOR AC | 12.01.21 |
| 5 | 26201004 | RELAY FIELD EXCITATION OVER LOAD (QE). | 12.01.21 |
| 6 | 26201699 | CARBON BRUSH FOR HITACHI TM TYPE HS- | 12.01.21 |
| 7 | 26201210 | DRUM TYPE REVERSER (J1 & J2) 1500 AMPS | 13.01.21 |
| 8 | 26200011 | MOTOR FOR TRANSFORMER OIL COOLING | 20.01.21 |
| 9 | 26205021 | MAIN COMPRESSOR 1750/1745 LPM WITH MOTOR | 20.01.21 |
| 10 | 26205022 | 2*500KVA IGBT BASED HOTEL LOAD | 20.01.21 |
| 11 | 01200165 | FOG SIGNAL DETONATORS | 20.01.21 |
| 12 | 06205198 | SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF STATION | 21.01.21 |
| 13 | 26205019 | MAIN TRANSFORMER 7775 KVA FOR WAP-7 | 21.01.21 |
| 14 | 26205020 | TRACTION MOTOR TYPE: HS15250A WITH EARTH | 21.01.21 |
| 15 | 15200189 | PURE IRON FLATS 44.85MM | 22.01.21 |
| 16 | 26201723B | RTV SILICON ELASTOMER COMPOUND | 22.01.21 |
| 17 | 06204249A | LP SHEET NON AC | 27.01.21 |

**Principal Chief Materials Manager**

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**FEDERAL BANK**
YOUR PERFECT BANKING PARTNER
**Regd. Office: Alwaye, Kerala-683101**

**LCRD/Bangalore Division**
**No. 4, 2nd Cross, CSI Compound, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560 027, Karnataka.**
**Phone: +91 080 22220898, 22220897,**
**Email: bgrlcrd@federalbank.co.in**

## SALE NOTICE

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Federal Bank Ltd ( Secured Creditor), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The Federal Bank Ltd (Secured Creditor),will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **22/1/2021** for recovery of total **₹ 3,78,49,355/-** (Rupees Three Crores Seventy Eight Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Five only) (**₹.2,68,30,332/-** as on 22/1/2021 due under Loan A/c.No.11895600003750 and **₹.1,10,19,023/-** due under A/c 11895500002373) to The Federal Bank Ltd (Secured Creditor) as on the aforesaid date of sale from **1).Mr.E.Madhusudan Rao,** S/o.Mr.Venkatappa Setty, Proprietor of M/s. Madhu Book House **2). Mrs.Varalakshmi Madhu,** W/o.Mr.E Madhusudan Rao,

The reserve price will be **Rs.1,27,17,000/-** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.12,71,700/-.**

**Description of the immovable property with known encumbrances:** All the piece and parcel of the residential property bearing No.10, Old No.35 (PID No.54-316-10) measuring East to West 45 Feet, North to South 30 Feet, in all 1350 sqft along with Two storyed RCC Roof Slab residential building having plinth area of Ground Floor measuring approximately1056 sq.ft and First Floor measuring approximately 1056 Sq.ft , total 2112 sq.ft, Door No. 334, old No. 35/10, situated at 2nd A Main Road, Srinivasa Nagar, Bengaluru, and bounded on the : East by : Road West by : Property No. 39 New No. 330, North by : Property No. 34 New No. 335, South by : Property No. 36 New No. 333. (As per the sale deed No. 1677/2007-08 dated 12/07/2007 of SRO Basavanagudi). Known Encumbrance- Nil

Date of Auction: **22/1/2021 at 3 PM.** The Last date of submission of Bid:**11 AM on 22/1/2021:** Place of Auction: **In the Above address.** For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the website of The Federal Bank Ltd i.e. **https://www.federalbank.co.in/web/guest/tender-notices**

**Date : 02.01.2021**
**Place : Bangalore**

**Sd/- (Authorised officer under SARFAESI Act)**
**For the Federal Bank Ltd,**

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**डाकविभाग सिविल वर्ग/DEPARTMENT OF POSTS - CIVIL WING**
**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय/O/o the Executive Engineer,**
**डाक सिविलमंडल / Postal Civil Division, 5 एथिराज सालै / 5, Ethiraj Salai,**
**चेन्नई–600 008./ CHENNAI-600 008. Ph: 044-28217289.**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (e-tendering Mode)**
**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (ई–निविदा विधि)**

The Executive Engineer, Postal Civil Division, No.5, Ethiraj Salai, Chennai-600 008 invites on behalf of the President of India, **online percentage bids** for the following works from the approved and eligible contractors.

**कार्यकारी अभियंता, पोस्टल सिविल डिविजन, नं 5, एथिराज सालै, चेन्नै–600 008, भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए स्वीकृत एवं योग्य ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन प्रतिशत दर निविदाएँ आमंत्रित करते हैं :**

**NIT No.: 121/PCD/C/2020-21**

**Name of work:** Construction of Small Post Office at Kilkodungalur vacant site under Tiruvannamalai Division.

**कार्य का नाम: तिरुवन्नामलाई डिवीजन के अंतर्गत किल्कोडुंगलूर रिक्त स्थान पर लघु डाकघर का निर्माण।**

Estimated Cost: **Rs.33,32,167/- [Rs.27,89,323/-(Civil Portion) & Rs.5,42,844/- (Electrical Portion)],** EMD: **NIL,** Period of Completion: **05 Months.**

Last date & time of submission of tender : **08.01.2021, 14.30 Hrs.**

For complete details and tender document please visit **https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com** and the department's website **www.indiapost.gov.in.**The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. Only e-tenders will be accepted.

**Tender ID: 121/PCD/C/2020-21**

Sd/-
**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL)/ कार्यकारी अभियंता(सिविल)**

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## TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

**INVITATION OF BIDS – ITEM WAR (TWO COVER SYSTEM)**

| Invitation for Bids | 14 / DSP – VPM Pkg.II to VI / DO / CE / VLR / 2020 / Dated: 30.12.2020. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Name of Work | Setting up of 60 MLD Capacity Desalination Plant at Koonimedu near Marakanam in Villupuram District and Conveyance of Product Water to Villupuram and Tindivanam Municipalities, Vicravandi, Marakanam Town Panchayats and 692 rural habitations in Marakanam, Kanai, Mailam, Vicravandi and Vanur unions in Villupuram District, Tindivanam SIPCOT and Government Medical College at Mundiyambakkam, Villupuram District – **Package II to VI.** | | | | |
| Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crore) | Package II | Package III | Package IV | Package V | Package VI |
| | 108.50 | 98.20 | 156.00 | 124.50 | 120.20 |
| Bid security (Rs.in Lakhs) | 75.00 | 74.00 | 78.00 | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| Eligible class | Class I | Class I | Class I | Class I | Class I |
| Tender invitee | The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Vellore – 632006. | | | | |
| Sale of Bid & place of sale | **From 04.01.2021 to 01.02.2021** Bid document may be purchased by remitting an amount of Rs. 1000 +GST from the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, RWS Division, Water tank compound, e mapper, Kallakurichi – 606202. If bid documents are required by post an amount of Rs.500/- (for each work) to be paid additionally. | | | | |
| website downloading at free of cost | **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and **www.twadboard.tn.gov.in.** | | | | |

**For all Packages**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Date and time of Pre bid meeting | **22.01.2021** at **11.00 A.M.** at CE's chamber, TWAD Board, Vellore. |
| 2. | Last date and time of downloading bid document | **01.02.2021 up to 5.45 P.M** |
| 3. | Last date and time for receipt of bid document | **03.02.2021 up to 3.00 P.M** |
| 4. | Date and time for opening of Technical bid | **03.02.2021 at 3.30 P.M** |

DIPR / 05 / TENDER / 2021

**Chief Engineer (i/c),**
**TWAD Board, Vellore.**

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**यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India**

## Union Bank of India, ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH

**"Jeevan Sampige: (LIC Building),1/1, Ground Floor, 2nd Main, Sampige Road, Near Mantri Square Mall, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003.**
**Mail Id: cb478@corpbank.co.in,** Contact No: **9441215957, 9148979845, 9880304512**

### APPENDIX-IV-A
### [See Proviso to Rule 8(6) of Security Enforcement Rules, 2002]
### Notice of 15 days for sale of immovable secured assets under Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

E-auction Sale Notice for sale of immovable Assets under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with the provison of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) mentioned below that the below described immovable property mortgaged/Charged to the Secured Creditor, the Constructive /Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the **Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Bengaluru** concerned branches/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is Where is", "As is What is", and "Whatever there is" basis,** by **Public E-Auction** on **18.01.2021, 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM** for recovery of the dues mentioned below together with future interest and legal/other expenses due to the Bank/Secured Creditor from respective borrowers. Last date for submission of EMD On or before **16.01.2021,** The Reserve Price for Property, the earnest money deposit (EMD) and Description of Property etc., are given below

| S.L | Name and Address of the Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor | Amount due | Reserve Price | EMD Amount | Description of immovable secured assets to be sold |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **1. Smt.Y.V.Shiva Priya** D/o Yegnanarayanavekatesa, Residing at: No 311, 6th Cross,Gandipuram, Whitefield, Bengaluru–560066 **2. Mr. Aravind Kumar** Residing at: No. 311, 6th Cross, Gandipuram, Whitefield, Bengaluru – 560 066 | **Rs.91,43,530.61** (Rupees Ninety One Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty and Sixty One Paise only) as on **30.11.2020** | **Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs only)** | **Rs.5,00,000 /-(Rupees Five Lakhs Only)** | All that piece and parcel of House property bearing Site No. 76, Assessment No. 212, in Laggere Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bengaluru, BBMP No.76/126, Ward No. 16, Karnataka H.B.C.S 2nd Stage Road, Kamalanagar, Bengaluru, PID No. 16-45-76/126, comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, Measuring East to West : (45 + 50)/2 feet, North to South: 20 Feet , totally measuring 950Sq.ft., constructed 19 Squares RCC Roofed house with all Civic amenities and bounded on East: Road, West: Private property, North: Site No.77, South: Site No.75. |
| 2 | **1. R. Girish** s/o D Rajanna, #66, 4th Cros, 1st Main, MSR Nagar, Bengaluru – 560054. **Also at** R.Girish s/o D Rajanna C/o M/s.S R Corportae Services, #30, II Floor, Shabari, 7th Cross, Lavelle Road, Bengaluru – 560001 **2. Mrs. C.S.A. Kiran** w/o R.Girish, #66, 4th Cros, 1st Main, MSR Nagar, Bengaluru – 560054. | **Rs.44,32,151** (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred and Fifty One only) as of **30.11.2020** | **Rs.19,50,000/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Fifty Thousand only)** | **Rs.1,95,000 /-** (Rupees One Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Only) | Flat No. G-2, Ground Floor, Krishna Dhama Apartment, Site No.15, Near Jain Swadeshi Apartment, Gubbalalu Main Road, Gubbalalu & Turahalli Layout II Stage, Vajramuni Nagara Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru – 560061, with a 1125sft super built up area and 298sft UDS with car parking bounded on East – by Flat No.G-3, West – by Staircase, North – by Corridor, South – by open Space |
| 3 | **1. Mr.K.Somasekhar** s/o Kariyappa, #1008, 1st Main, MCR Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040. **2. Mrs.Rekha** w/o K.Somasekhar s/o Kariyappa, #1008, 1st Main, MCR Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru -560040 | **Rs.40,50,245.54** (Rupees Forty Lakhs Fifty Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Five and Fifty Four Paise only) as on **30.11.2020** | **Rs.24,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs only)** | **Rs.2,40,000 /-** (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Thousand Only) | Flat No. F-3, First Floor, Krishna Dhama Apartment, Site No.15, Near Jain Swadeshi Apartment, Gubbalalu Main Road, Gubbalalu & Turahalli Layout II Stage, Vajramuni Nagara Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru – 560061, with a 1164sft super built up area and 298sft UDS with car parking bounded on East – by Open Space West – by Flat No.F2 North – by Corridor South – by open Space |
| 4 | **1. Mr.Javeed M & Mrs.Tabassum Fathima**, Residing at 3/5, 5th Cross, Someshwara Nagar, Jayanagar, Bengaluru South - 560011 **Also at** Mr.Javeed M & Mrs.Tabassum Fathima, "Unik Paradise", Flat No.304, 3rd Floor, 4th Cross Road, Krishnappa Layout, Shampura New Extension, 2nd Block, Shamoura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru – 560045. **2. Mr.Ilyaz Ahmed (guarantor)**, No.57, 7th Cross, Mangampalya, Main Road, Bomman ahalli, Bengaluru – 560068 **3. Mr.Nayaz Ahmed,** No.11, 3rd Floor, Mohamdan Nayaz Aamed Block, Chamarajpete, Bengaluru 560018 | **Rs.44,12,122.71** (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Twelve Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Two and Seventy One paisa only) as of **30.11.2020** | **Rs.33,04,000/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Four Thousand only)** | **Rs.3,30,400/-** (Rupees Three Lakhs Thirty Thousand Four Hundred Only) | All that Piece and Parcel of Residential Property at "UNIK PARADISE" Flat No.304, 3rd Floor, New BBMP No.8, PID No.95-349-8, Site No.43 and 43A, Khata No.1378 and 379, Assessment No.11/1 and 12/3, 4th Cross Road, Krishnappa Layout, Shampura Exentension 2nd Block, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore 560045 measuring super built up area of 900sqft along with 205 sqft undivided share., Bounded on the North by: Property No.44, South by: Property No.42, East by:4th Cross Road and West by: Property No.40 & 41. |
| 5 | **1. Mr.S.Karthik , Flat No.102, 1st Floor, Indus Paradise Apartm**ents, 12th Main Road, 4th Cross, Lakkasandra, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru – 560030. **2. Mrs.S.Kowsalya,** Flat No.102, 1st Floor, Indus Paradise Apartments, 12th Main Road, 4th Cross, Lakkasandra, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru – 560030 | **Rs.66,77,587.76** (Rupees Sixty Six Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Seven and Seventy Six Paise only) as of **30.11.2020** | **Rs.80,00,000/- (Rupees Eighty Lakhs only)** | **Rs.8,00,000 /-(Rupees Eight Lakhs Only)** | All that Piece and Parcel of the Residential Property bearing Flat No.102, 1st Floor, "INDUS PARADISE" apartments, having super built-up area of 1270sqft situated at New Municipal No.1/3-1, earlier Municipal No.1/3(231) situated at 4th Cross, 12th Main Road, Lakkasandra Extension, Bangalore 560030, flat bounded on east by: Open to sky; West by: Open to sky and Flat no.103, North by: Corridor & Steps and South by: Open to sky, Building Boundaries: East by: property of Sri.Krishnappa, West by: Property of Sri.Bose & others, North by: Road & Property of Kothari and South by: Property of Raghupathi & others |
| 6 | **M/s Kharidhi Distributors, Prop: Mr. Ramesh K S** No. 95, Gokulam. Cellar Portion 13th Main, 27th A Cross 4th Block East, Jayanagar Bangalore – 560 011. **M/s Kharidhi Jewellers Rep. by its Partner Mr. Ramesh K S Mrs. Anitha Mahesh A M** No. 24, 12th Main 4th Block, Jayanagar Bangalore – 560 011. **Mr. Ramesh K S** Flat bearing No. 287 2nd Floor, Jeevan Surabhi Block No. 27, LIC Apartments Sector 2, 24th Main, J P Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore – 560 078. **Mrs. Anitha Mahesh A M** Flat bearing No. 287 2nd Floor, Jeevan Surabhi Block No. 27, LIC Apartments, Sector 2, 24th Main, J P Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore – 560 078. | **Rs. 6,68,17,929/-** (Rupees Six Crores Sixty Eight Lakhs Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Nine only)(As on **31.10.2020)** | **Rs. 3,24,00,000/- (Rupees Three Crores Twenty Four Lakhs only)** | **Rs.32,40,000/- (Rupees Thirty Two Lakhs and Forty Thousand only)** | 1) All that piece and parcel of Site property bearing No.4, assessment No.:104/191/BS, No.80/1, 80/2 situated at Jyothinagar extension, Chikkamagalur. Measuring East to West: 80 feet and North to South : 50 feet together with Building constructed thereon and bounded on : East by : Mysore Coffee Curing Works Compound Wall, West by : Road,North by : Property bearing No.5 South by : Property No.3 2) All that piece and parcel of Site property bearing No.5, assessment No.:103/192/BS, No.80/1, 80/2 situated at Jyothinagar extension, Chikkamagalur City Municipal Council, Chikkamagalur Measuring East to West: 80 feet and North to South : 50 feet and bounded on : East by : Mysore Coffee Curing Works Compound Wall West by : Road North by : Property bearing No.6 South by : Property No.4 |
| 7 | **1. M/s Janatha Traders,** No.506, 9th Cross , BDA Land, APMC Yard, Yeshwanthapur, Bangalore -560022. Represented by its Prop. Smt N N Savithra Bai. **2. Mrs. Savithrabai N N.** W/o N Nagaraj Shetty, Old Main Bazar, Near Sri Virabhadreshwar Temple , Raichur, Sindhanur, Karnataka-584128. **3. Mr. Nagaraj Setty Nadang** No. 14, 14th Main Road, 8th Cross, Ganesh Block, Near Tent Road, Nandini Layout, Bangalore – 560096. | **Rs. 1,60,00,000/-** (Rupees One Crore Sixty Lakhs only)(As on **31.03.2020)** | **1,22,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Two Lakhs only)** | **12,20,000/- (Twelve Lakhs Twenty Thousand Only)** | All that piece and Parcel of Site bearing No. 506, (BDA Land), situated at A.P.M.C. Yard, Yeshwanthapur Bangalore-560022, measuring 30-0 X 60-0 Feet and bounded by the following boundaries East by : Site No. 505, West by: Site No. 507, South by : Site No . Factory Compound Wall North by : 60 Ft. Road. |
| 8 | **1. M/s K Mark, Prop. Mr. K Keshavamurthy** R/a No. 2060, 16th D Main, HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560 038. **2. Mr. Keshavamurthy,** R/a No. 2060, 16th D Main, HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560 038. **3. Mrs. Kavitha Kestur** R/a No. 2060, 16th D Main, HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560 038 | **Rs. 10,00,28,164/-** (Rupees Ten Crores Twenty Eight Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Four Only) (As on **31.08.2020)** | **Rs. 1,12,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Twelve Lakhs Only)** | **Rs. 11,20,000/-/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Twenty Thousand only)** | All that part and parcel of apartment bearing Flat No. G-1, Ground Floor, ORCHARD GREEN Apartments, Property No. 139/34-10, 2nd Main, 1st Cross, Intermediate Ring Road, Domlur, Bangalore – 560 071. Total Plinth Area – 1430 Sq. Ft, with one Car Parking space in the Basement and 680 Square Feet of Garden area along with 771 Sq. Ft of Undivided share right. |
| 9 | **1. M/s Vijaya Shree Infra** No: 12/9/4/2, 3rd Cross, Brindavana Layout, Vijinapura, Bangalore – 560016. **2. Mr. K M Gopi,** # 2150, 1St Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd Stage, New Thippasandra Post, Bangalore- 560075. **3. Mrs. G Radha Rani,** No. 2150, 1st Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd stage, New Thippsandra Post, Bangalore - 560075. **4. Mrs. Puttamma M,** No. 2150, 1st Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd Stage, New Thippasandra Post, Bangalore- 560075. | **Rs. 10,17,00,000/-** (Rupees Ten Crores Seventeen Lakhs only) (As on **31.07.2020)** | **Rs. 3,33,00,000/- (Rupees Three Crores Thirty Three Lakhs only).** | **Rs. 33,30,000/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Thirty Thousand only).** | All that piece and parcel of undeveloped converted land in Sy no.109 (old Sy no.44) situated at Rayasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli,Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural district measuring 1 acre20 guntas belonging to Mr K M Gopi and Mrs G Radha Rani bounded by East by : Government Road ,West by : Land of Nagaraju of Devanahalli North by: Land of Hanumanthappa, South by :Land of Muniyappa |
| 10 | **1. M/s Vijaya Shree Infra** No: 12/9/4/2, 3rd Cross, Brindavana Layout, Vijinapura, Bangalore – 560016. **2. Mr. K M Gopi,** # 2150, 1St Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd Stage, New Thippasandra Post, Bangalore- 560075. **3. Mrs. G Radha Rani,** No. 2150, 1st Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd stage, New Thippsandra Post, Bangalore - 560075. **4. Mrs. Puttamma M,** No. 2150, 1st Cross, B M Kaval, HAL 3rd Stage, New Thippasandra Post, Bangalore- 560075. | **Rs. 10,17,00,000/-** (Rupees Ten Crores Seventeen Lakhs only) (As on **31.07.2020)** | **Rs. 1,07,10,000/- (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakhs Ten Thousand only)** | **Rs. 10,71,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Seventy One Thousand only)** | All that piece and parcel of House list no.9/3 and 10/1, Katha no.10, Byappanahalli Notified area Assessment no.8 situated at Vijinapura Village alias Kothur Village, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to west 59ft+ 70ft/2, North to South 70ft+53ft/2, in all admeasuring 3966.75 square feet belonging to Mrs Puttamma bounded by: North : private property and measuring 53ft on that side, South: Road and measuring 70ft on that side, East: Remaining property of the vendors in the same Khatha number sold to smt.Jayamma and N Venkatesh,measuring 70ft on that side. West: property of M Krishna Reddy measuring 53ft on that side |

**Account bearing No: 331301990050000, in the name of "Asset Recovery Branch", at Union Bank of India, through IFSC Code: UBIN0533131**

The aforesaid property/ies will be sold by "Online The Online E-Auction will be held through web portal/website **www.mstcecommerce.com** on the date and time mentioned above with unlimited extension of 10 minutes. The intending bidders / purchasers required to register through **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp** by using their mobile number and valid email-id. They are further required to upload KYC documents and Bank Details. The interested bidder may contact the Branch Manager of Union Bank of India **Asset Recovery Branch: Contact No: 9441215957, for inspection of property and also visit the aforementioned website for ascertaining the details of auction**

**STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER Rule 8(6)/ Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**

This may also be treated as notice u/r 8(6) Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and Guarantor/s of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date.

**Place: Bengaluru**
**Date: 02.01.2021**

**Authorised Officer**
**For Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Bangalore.**

# Loan app fraud claims another life

This is TS' fifth case in a month; Chinese nationals, several others arrested recently for the scam

**Youth commits suicide after losing ₹20 lakh playing online rummy**

T'Puram: The youth hailing from Kuttichal near here had ended his life after he lost about ₹22 lakh playing online rummy game, according to his family and the police.Vineeth, 29, of Bineesh Bhavan, was a contract worker on the Valiyamala campus of the Indian Space Research Organisation. He was found hanging from the branch of a rubber tree near his house on December 31. Vineeth's father Velayudhan Pillai said his son was an avid gamer but said it was not the only reason for his suicide. "We had promised him all support to repay the money he had took from different persons. We were preparing to sell our house," said Pillai who suspected that his son got threats over the phone.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

EVEN as the Telangana police is investigating several cases of citizens being scammed and harassed by instant loan app companies involving Chinese nationals, the Statewide fraud has claimed the life of yet another person.

The deceased, 36-year-old G Chandra Mohan from Kamareddy district, was found hanging from the ceiling fan at his home in Gundla Pochampally on Saturday. He was rushed to a hospital, but was declared brought dead by doctors.

Inspector of Petbasheerabad police station, S Ramesh, said that a case of abetment of suicide has been registered against the fraudsters. It may be mentioned here that this is the fifth such suicide in the last one month in the State, where victims were harassed by executives of instant loan app firms, demanding repayment.

Chandra Mohan's family said that he had availed loans to the tune of ₹80,000 through more than 10 instant loan apps. He worked at a warehouse in Gundla Pochampally. The police launched the investigation based on a complaint from Chandra Mohan's wife. No suicide note was found at his residence.

The victim, after availing loan from an instant app, began approaching more apps to clear the first loan. One thing led to another, and before he knew it, Chandra Mohan was neck-deep in debts.

His family told the police that Chandra Mohan was depressed as he was being harassed by the executives of the instant loan app companies, demanding repayment. They would call him up regularly and abuse him, his family said.

Earlier, similar cases were reported in Medak, Siddipet and Peddapalli districts, in addition to the case of a techie dying by suicide in Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.

In the recent past, several persons were arrested in various loan apps fraud cases in the State, including Chinese nationals operating out of Hyderabad and other cities like Pune and Delhi. The city police had earlier reported that the instant loan app companies, running businesses without requisite statutory permissions, had made transactions worth ₹21,000 crores, revenues from which were transferred to Chinese companies.

# Kochi-M'luru connect: Modi to inaugurate gas pipeline on Jan 5

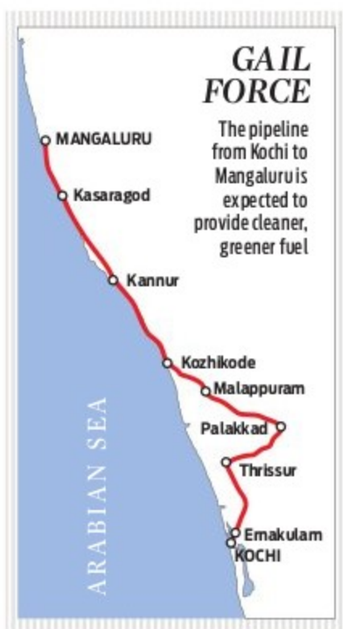
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru, Kochi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Kochi-Mangaluru Natural Gas Pipeline implemented by GAIL (India) Limited, through a video conference scheduled at 11 am on January 5. The pipeline is expected to bring a big boost to gas economy, providing cheaper and cleaner fuel to industrial and residential consumers.

Disclosing this to mediapersons on Saturday, GAIL (India) Limited chairman and managing director Manoj Jain said Kerala governor Arif Mohammad Khan, Karnataka Governor Vajubhai Vala, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan will attend the virtual launch.

The 450 km-long pipeline will carry Natural Gas from Kochi in Kerala through Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod districts to Mangaluru in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka. Built at a project cost of around ₹3,000 crore, the pipeline will be able to transport 12 million metric standard cubic metres of natural gas per day from the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Regasification Terminal in Kochi.

The project will enable convenient and uninterrupted supply of environment-friendly and affordable fuel in the form of piped natural gas (PNG) to households, commercial units and compressed natural gas (CNG) across different city gas distribution (CGD) areas. "Within 2021 a few colonies in Mangaluru will get piped gas connection. Works on Bengaluru-Krishnagiri pipeline is in the final stages and Hosur area will get connections in another 3-4 months," said Manoj Jain, adding that it will offer clean industrial fuel and feedstock for petrochemical and fertilizer sectors and provide an opportunity for multiple gas-based industries to emerge, thus bringing about socio-economic benefits to the people of these states and creating direct and indirect job opportunities. While for vehicles, the natural gas will be 30-40 per cent cheaper when compared to petrol and diesel, for households, it will be 10-15 per cent cheaper when compared to LPG, Jain added.




**Works on Bengaluru-Krishnagiri line is in the pipeline stages and Hosur area will get connections in another 3-4 months**

Manoj Jain, chairman and director, GAIL (India) Limited

GAIL director M V Iyer said the pipeline will offer clean industrial fuel and provide an opportunity for multiple gas-based industries to emerge, creating direct and indirect job opportunities. The pipeline project itself created over 12 lakh man-days of employment during the construction, he added.

The project was launched in 2009 at an estimated cost of ₹2,915 crore and was expected to be completed in 2014. However, resistance from public raising safety concerns and high land price posed challenges.

The first phase of the project was commissioned in August 2013 in Kochi city and Indian Oil-Adani Gas Ltd started industrial and domestic supplies in 2016.

MAJOR RESHUFFLE

## Centre rejigs state's project appraisal bodies

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has appointed new members to the State Level Impact Assessment Authority of Karnataka.

Dr K S Sree Harsha has been appointed chairman of the authority, K N Shivalinge Gowda as member and the principal secretary to the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department as member-secretary. The new appointees will have a three-year term. The authority will take decisions following recommendations of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee.

The Centre has issued a list of SEAC members appointed by the MoEF. While Venugopala V has been appointed as its chairman, the members are Dr Shekar H S, Dr J B Raj, Nanda Kishore, Dr S K Gali, Vyshak V Anand, Dinesh M C, Devegowda Raju, Sharanabasava Chandrashekar Pilli, J G Kaveriappa, Mahendra Kumar M C, B V Byra Reddy, Dr Sarvamanagala R Patil and B Ramasubba Reddy.

The Special Director (Technical Cell) of the Forest, Ecology and Environment has been appointed member-secretary.

To avoid conflict of interest, the chairman and member-secretary of the SEIAA and SEAC have to declare which consulting organisation they have been associated with.

## Revenue up in Kolar, Tumakuru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THIS could be because of the excise duty, which was increased to mop an additional ₹2,500 crore. Kolar, Tumakuru and Ramanagara districts witnessed increased excise revenue collections in comparison to the other districts.

In the review meeting, some of the suggestions made to increase revenue included levying fines on defaulters, strict checks on the sale of non-duty paid liquor, optimum use of secret service funds and to selectively provide CL7 licence (lodges/hotels) only to those premises which follow "all the proper guidelines including that of building facilities and cleanliness," the officers suggested. A senior officer, however, stressed that fines in village limits should be reduced.

Other suggestions included the setting up of a proper mechanism to improve redressal of grievances and complaints, strict checks and punitive action against the use of narcotic and psychotropic drugs and the construction of Excise Bhavan at ₹150 crore. The government has re-designated excise guards and head guards as excise constables and head constables. They will be given two-wheelers and petro cards.

BUILDING DREAMS

## *Three from K'taka get PM's award for best houses under govt scheme*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Challakere

It was a proud moment for three beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's Awas Yojana, from the state, when they were awarded for the best construction of houses at a virtual ceremony on Friday.

The three beneficiaries — B C Pankaja from Challakere in Chitradurga district, Shakuntala from Tawargera in Kushtagi taluk of Koppal district and Rachamma from Chamarajanagar — were given the award by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, through video conference, for best practices in construction of houses under the housing programme for the year 2019. The awards were announced on December 26.

The house constructed by Pankaja found special mention as it has been constructed as per the directions and technical expertise provided by engineers of the housing section of the Challakere city municipality. The house was sanctioned for Pankaja in 2017-18 and construction was started immediately. P Palaiah, who is now the commissioner of the Challakere city municipal council, was the housing officer then and guided her for taking up construction.

Pankaja said she received central funds of Rs 1.50 lakh and the state government's share of Rs 1.20 lakh. She also pooled in her savings for construction of the house and says she is now respectfully living in her own house. "Eligible people should make best use of the programme and construct a decent house for themselves to live with dignity", she felt.

Chitradurga city municipal council commissioner J T Hanumantharaju, who was then administrator of the Challakere CMC, said that based on the directives of the officials, Pankaja took up the construction of the house and made good use of the funds. He also expressed happiness over a beneficiary from the city where he worked getting the award.

Chitradurga DC Kavitha S Mannikeri hands over the award to Pankaja in Chitradurga | EXPRESS

A ROOF OVER THE HEAD

**SC, ST community beneficiaries:** ₹1.50 lakh each both from state and central governments

The PMAY aims to provide affordable housing to 20 million urban poor by March 2022

**General category beneficiaries under PMAY:** ₹1.50 lakh from Centre, ₹1.20 lakh from state government

Female head of the family must be the owner or co-owner of the house

The size of a house for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) can be up to 30 sqmt. carpet area

States/UTs have the flexibility to enhance the size of houses after consultation

**LOST of DOCUMENT**

I, **Lakshmamma** W/o Late Krishnappa aged about 60 Years R/a,Ramanagara District Kanakapura Taluk,Kasaba hobali Ganal postal, village of Allimaranahalli, Adhar No.512628784211,
I am a Permanent Resident at the above address. While cleaning our home, on Dated 12-12-2020 , I lost my House documents, to get a copy of No.193888 document , file a complaint with me at the police station to get a copy of my claim deed. Ask for a Certificate of Missing, Therefore, I certify that by this affidavit, I am now certifying that I have lost my home property document at the time of the evacuation of our house. If you know that all of the above are true and true, then I am committed to legal action and have signed and certified that you will use this certificate only for the above purpose., Finders Please Contact to Above Address OR inform nearby Police Station.

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**ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ**
ಸರ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898, 2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು(ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ)
**ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ**
ನಂ:ಎಚ್.ಡಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ:2505/ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್-13/2020-21/173 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02-01-2021
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸನ್ 2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999-2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ KW-2 ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯಂ PWD/HDMC/ಇತರೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
**ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು**
1) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ- DMA/2020-21/OW/WORK_INDENT111255, ರೂ. **33.01** ಲಕ್ಷ, 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, (12 ತಿಂಗಳು).
ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು (ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ) ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಚೇರಿಯ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **0836:2252204** ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಅಲ್ಲದೇ ಸದರಿ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿತ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಅಥವಾ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಲಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **04-01-2021** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ವಿ.ಸೂ: ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮೂದಿಸಬೇಕು.
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **25-01-2021** ರಂದು ಸಾ. 4.00 ಘಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ
ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **27-01-2021** ರಂದು ಸಾ. 11.30 ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು(ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ)
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/592/2020-21 ಹು.ಧಾ. ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ಕೋವಿಡ್ 19 ಲಕ್ಷಣಗಳು ಇವೆಯೇ? ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ. ಉಪೇಕ್ಷಿಸಿದ್ರೆ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ 1410.
ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ | 6 ಅಡಿ ಭೌತಿಕ ಅಂತರ ಪಾಲಿಸಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

Government of Karnataka
**(Public Works Department)**
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION BIDAR**
NO:EE/PWD/Dvn/Bdr/ TS-2/5054-3054/2020-21/3284 Date: 31.12.2020
**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER**
On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Divn. Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers. Category wise works Indents details are as follows. Amount put to tender for the work is Minimum for **Rs. 16.73** Lakhs and Maximum for **Rs. 250.00** Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the Public Procurement Portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
**Work Indent Nos**: 1) KPWD/2020-21/RD/WORK_INDENT 132595,132596, 132594,126076,132618,132441,132237,132236,132598, 132597,132619, 132442,125951,132600,132602,111594,132601, 132195 ,128943,and 133674. Category of Contractor-General. 2) KPWD/2020-21/RD/WORK_INDENT128997 Category of Contractor-Scheduled caste.
Tender documents can be downloaded from the Portal from 01.01.2021 and must be submitted through Public Procurement Portal on or before 11.01.2021 upto 16.00 Hours. Tenders will be opened on 12.01.2021 at 16.30 Hours. Further any other information can be seen from the portal or can be had from the undersigned.
DIP/Bidar/236/MC&A/2020-21 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division Bidar.**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**
**KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED**
Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC Division No-2, Bhalki.
No. KNNL/EE/KPC2/TS-2/2020-21/1034 Dated:24-12-2020
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Only Through e-procurement System). in Two cover system**
Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL ,K P C Division No.2, Bhalki for Construction of New KNNL Division and Sub-Division Office Building at Bhalki Under Karanja Project in Two cover system (cover I and cover II), from the Category-III contractors/firm/company enrolled under KNNL of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the details mentioned below.
1) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document: From 02-01-2021 to 12-01-2021 up to 16.00 Hrs, 2) Last Date for submission of quarries if any is on or before: 09-01-2021 up to 17.00 Hrs, 3) Pre-Bid meeting at office of the Chief Engineer, KNNL, IP Zone, Kalaburagi: 11-01-2021@ 11.00 Hrs, 4) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents( cover- I and cover- II):12-01-2021 up to 16.00 Hrs, 5) Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover –I) : 13-01-2021 @ 17.00 Hrs, 6) The Financial bid of pre-qualified Contractors will be opened on i.e., Cover II: 18-01-2021 @ 17.00 Hrs
Amount put to tender **Rs. 1.02 Crores.** EMD **Rs. 1.02 Lakhs.** Indent No-30662 all details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No- 08484-262257) and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in
DIP/Bidar/232/MC&A/2020-21 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC, Division no-2, Bhalki**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**Office of the Deputy Commissioner, DC Office Complex, Koppal-583231**
Landline No.: 08539-220844 E-Mail: deo.koppal@gmail.com
**Notification for Drone Survey of Quarry lease/Licence area of Koppal District through E-Tender .**
**Drone Survey of Quarry lease/Licence area of Koppal District through E-Tender**
The Office of the Director Department of mines and Geology, Bangalore has circular & Corrigendum /addendum No.1 under rule of 40 of Karnataka Minor Mineral Concession (Ammendent) Rules, 2016 vide No. CI 115 MMN 2019, Bengaluru, Dated 30.06.2020 & 30.12.2020 has entrusted the competent authority shall finalise the annual audit report to the best of its judgement by obtaining Drone.
In this Connection, The District Taskforce (Mines) Committee, Koppal approved meeting dated:18.11.2020.
This notification for conducting Drone and DGPS survey of Building stone/Granite Quarry leased/licensed area and any quarry area identified by the officers of DMG to carry out Boundary fixation and assessment of Volume of Mineral Extracted with in and Out Side quarry Area and to record the reduced level of quarry leases with the field operations shall be conducted in the presence of Officials of the Department of Mines and Geology and the Lease Holder with mahajar in Koppal district through tender cum auction under rule 40 of KMMCR 1994 Ammendment rules 2016 has been invited under Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000. The interested and eligible bidders are requested apply their tenders for the blocks given in the table below through E-Procurement portal of Government of Karnataka viz.,http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. **Table**

| SlNo | District | Taluk | Mineral Name | Number of Leases | Extent in Acres- guntas |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Koppal | Koppal | Building Stone | 28 | 69.20 |
| | | | Granite | 08 | 41.00 |
| 2 | Koppal | Yelaburga | Building Stone | 06 | 37.18 |
| | | | Granite | 58 | 233.21 |
| 3 | Koppal | Kustagi | Granite | 74 | 295.06 |
| 4 | Koppal | Gangavati | Building Stone | 14 | 45.21 |
| | | | Granite | 02 | 3.00 |
| | | | | 190 | 725.06 |

The interested public may contact for any querries related to this tender cum auction public is requested to contact " Senior Geologist, Dept of Mines and Geology, DC office complex, Koppal (Contact No. 08539-221285). The Following is the calendar of events for the Pre-qualification tender process of blocks.
Date of downloading application form for pre-qualification tender, bid document and other details.: **30.01.2021.** Pre-qualification meeting date and place: **04.02.2021Senior Geologist, Dept of Mines and Geology, DC office complex, Koppal.** Last date for receiving pre-qualification tender through E-procurement: **15.02.2021.** Date of opening pre-qualification tender: **17.02.2021**
**Sd/-Chairman & Deputy Commissioner, Dist Taskforce (Mines) Committee, Koppal,**
**DIPR/Koppal/303/MCA/2019-20**

"We all have ability. The difference is how we use it."

Stevie Wonder

# CONUNDRUM OF CONTRASTS IN THE INDIAN ECONOMY

HOPE and fear are marching in lockstep. The arrival of the vaccines represents the dawn of hope. Yet, fears about mutations of the virus and how politics, which defines public policy, will mutate loom large across India's political economy. Political rhetoric propels public expectations and the declaration by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently of "a budget which is a budget like never before" will be tested against a billion aspirations.

The challenge of revival and recovery is located in a parade of riveting contrasts. India, it is useful to remember, migrated from slowdown to lockdown. The contrast between the message beamed by stock indices and indices of the real economy are striking to say the least. In the period post the high of 2016-17, growth has slid consistently and stock valuations have risen just as consistently. GDP growth slid from 8-plus per cent to hover at around 4 per cent to a contraction in the wake of the pandemic, while the benchmark Sensex has shot up from around 29,000 points to over 47,000 points.

THE THIRD EYE

**SHANKKAR AIYAR**

Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India

shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com

How has the fall in growth impacted government revenues? In theory, drop in output would result in drop in revenues. That though is not necessarily true in the Indian context. This week, the government informed India that the Goods and Services Tax collections "for December 2020 recorded all time high since implementation of GST". Even as the economy is in what is called a technical recession, which translates into two quarters of negative growth, GST collections which averaged at around ₹90,000 crore since August 2017, touched the new high of ₹1.15,174 crore for the month of December. GST revenues grew even as the economy shrank 7.5 per cent in the July-Sept 2020 period.

It is not just the Dalal Street vs Main Street picture or the GDP vs GST revenues imagery which are curious. Conventional economics postulates a correlation between inflation and interest rates. Consumer Price Inflation, which was under 3 per cent in 2017, has seen a secular rise now touching 7.5 per cent. The RBI's policy rates though have slid from over 6.5 per cent to 5.15 per cent in 2019 to 4 per cent in 2020. This column has previously highlighted the phenomenon (https://bit.ly/27Savers) affecting savers. Interest rates for depositors with money in a savings account halved to 3 per cent — a 365-day deposit now fetches what the savings account used to.

So, how has a lower cost of money, higher GST revenues served government finances? Not so well even though after all the weighted average cost of government bonds has dipped from 7.5 plus per cent to now 5.87 per cent for a 10-year bond. The outcome depends not just on the rate of interest but, more critically, the quantum of borrowings. Gross borrowings of Centre and states has gone up from ₹11.66 lakh crore in 2016-17 to ₹15.62 lakh crore in 2019-20 — effectively rising from ₹3,030 crore per day to ₹4,280 crore per day or ₹178 crore per hour. The impact is visible in interest costs. In five years, just the interest cost of the Centre rose from ₹4.80 lakh to ₹7.08 lakh crore — that is, ₹1,940 crore per day or ₹80 crore per hour. This despite the cost of funds coming down!

For sure, there are reasons for many of the contrasts — and some have been normalised in the political discourse. For instance, the buzz in global financial markets has been about the weakening of the dollar post the easy money regime following the stimulus. This has resulted in flows to emerging economies. India has had record inflows for portfolio and foreign direct investment in 2020. Yet, the punters have labelled the rupee among the worst performing currencies.

The explanatory counterfactual is the RBI has bought dollars, released liquidity and added $ 112 billion to its forex reserves. Similarly, portfolio flows helped stock valuations for index stocks even though the broader economy stalled. Higher borrowings and interest costs is essentially the result of higher expenditure. The rise in GST is partly explained by incidence of taxation — a look at prices of diesel and petrol would be instructive. While there can be explanations for the contrasts, these are indicators of the rising costs of a low growth economy. Ergo re-aligning the pieces to normal constructs of economic theory, so as to balance pain and gain, will be the principal challenge in the design of Budget 2021. It all boils down to finding resources, and the balance sheet doesn't look pretty with just the Centre's fiscal deficit at ₹10.75 lakh crore for the April-November period.

Arguably, anecdotal evidence points to a positive trend and the budget could bet on growth but restoration of its level to sustain current debt to GDP ratio calls for a review of how the government conducts governance. The situation demands a recast of funding and functions — a review of how the government manages its funds, what it must own and not own, what it must do and not do. Clearly Budget 2021 cannot be a business as usual essay.

# COLUMNIST THINKS HE IS GOD: GOVERNOR

POINT OF VIEW

**TJS GEORGE**

**With apologies to readers, I would like to share this week's column with Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor of Kerala. He disapproved of some critical remarks I made about him and wrote:**

Dear Sri TJS George,

I am writing this letter not to rebut what you have written in your piece in the New Indian Express today that is on 27.12.2020. I feel I am an avid reader of books and newspapers but I have rarely come across a piece which makes one say: "But for the grace of God, here is a piece written by God himself."

I would like to thank you for spending so much time and energy to read my heart and intentions and judging me as the "most frustrated politician." From your piece it appears that you are more privy to my convictions than I am, and have chosen to articulate them by saying that: "He has been made governor when his own conviction is that he can serve the country best by being a power-wielding minister."

You further say: "He is taking out his frustration on the elected government in Kerala." In your judgment you sound like God who is all-knowing about innermost feelings and has the right to judge, and not like a veteran writer who is supposed to give his opinions based on available facts and not distort facts to project his biases and prejudices.

First, you hold my 'frustration' responsible for the "ugly situation" and in the next para you allege that what I have done is to prove my loyalty to Modi government which sees farmers as enemies. Now surely both contentions cannot be true at the same time. About my alleged conviction to become a power-wielding Minister, I would like to bring to your notice the following facts which are public knowledge but you have chosen to ignore.

That I became a junior Minister in UP government in June 1977, when I had just completed 25 years, but few months later when I developed differences with the Chief Minister on handling of law and order situation, I immediately resigned from the government. So much for my love of power at that young age.

That in 1985, as MoS in the Ministry of Home Affairs I had defended the Supreme Court verdict on Shah Bano in Lok Sabha. But in 1986, when the then Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi developed cold feet and succumbed to the divisive and communal demand of Muslim Personal Law Board, I resigned from the government on the day the Bill to reverse the Supreme Court judgment was introduced in Parliament. Before his volte face, the Prime Minister had transferred me to Power Department with independent charge, possibly to mollify me. In 1986, when I resigned, the Prime Minister had a parliamentary majority of 400 plus members and no one at that time had even remotely entertained the idea that the government of Mr Rajiv Gandhi may face any threat in near future. And for your information in 1986, I was just 35 years old.

In 1990, after Chandrashekhar Ji, for whom I had great feeling of respect and fondness, became Prime Minister. He was kind enough to invite me to join his government but I politely refused.

I do not wish to give you similar other instances but it would be appropriate to mention that in September 2014, I received a communication from BJP leadership about taking some responsibility which again I declined politely due to personal reasons.

In past I had to sever my political links, but every time this happened, I gave up some position of power and did not do it to get into some new powerful position.

But speaking psychologically, human beings are prone to see others in the mirror of their own dispositions and inclinations and therefore you have every right to view me accordingly.

You have further insinuated that "ugly situation" created by me "has been saved from becoming a public scandal only by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's diplomatic handling of it."

I do not know what are you referring to. It is true that on 22.12.20, he expressed his regrets on my seeking clarifications but on 24.12.2020, while proposing to hold emergent session on 31.12.2020, he has detailed out the grounds to justify an emergency Session, as I had suggested in my queries to the earlier proposal which had casually mentioned "to discuss some important issues." So while the validity of the queries that I raised became clear to the Chief Minister and Ministers, you have decided to ignore them in your article.

Further you have asserted that "the state government wanted to call a special session of the legislature to express support to the ongoing farmers' agitation."

The state government had proposed to summon the regular session on 08.01.2021 on 17.12.2020. The file reached my office at 6.30 pm on 18.12.2020. December 19 and 20 were holidays. I approved their decision in the morning of 21.12.2020 and immediately sent back the file. On the same day, I received another note saying that the Cabinet had decided to withdraw the earlier decision and now they propose to hold a special session on 23.12.2020 to "discuss some important issues."

> I hope you remember how severely eminent jurists had criticised the then President of India Sri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad, for signing all documents during emergency without applying his mind. It was then that the term "Rubber Stamp" was frequently used.

For your kind information, there is no mention of special Session in the Rule Book. Yes, the Book says that a Session can be summoned on a short notice or emergently. I have already made it clear that as far as the regular session is concerned, which requires 15 days notice, the Governor has no discretion and since I have assumed office, I have always approved their proposals to summon sessions without any delay.

But legally speaking when a proviso is invoked to summon an emergency session, then it must be accompanied by a detailed note containing grounds to show the nature of emergency. The proposal of 21.12.2020, mentioned no grounds; it merely said: "to discuss some important issues." I hope you remember how severely eminent jurists had criticised the then President of India Sri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad, for signing all documents during emergency without applying his mind. It was then that the term "Rubber Stamp" was frequently used.

You may differ with me but I am convinced that whenever the government decides to depart from normal rules and takes recourse to emergency provisions, I shall not give my approval without applying my mind and satisfying myself that genuine grounds exist which justify invocation of emergency rules. In this case I have done what my understanding of law dictated me to do and shall do the same in future in the eventuality of government not spelling out the grounds while invoking emergency provisions.

For your kind information, my government has already agreed to this proposition and the fresh proposal to summon Assembly has come with an exhaustive note. I may or may not agree with their reasoning but they have fulfilled the requirement.

I do not wish to comment on the rest of your article which is full of baseless charges like "Modi Government seeing farmers as enemies." That is your opinion and opinion is free but the facts are sacred. And the fact is that by elimination of middlemen, farmers have already started benefiting and hopefully will substantially increase their income in few years when the new laws come into full play.

You are a veteran journalist and writer, I feel you have every right to scrutinise my views and actions, but you or for that matter anybody else has no right to attribute motives or scrutinise what you presume are my intentions. I am not asking The New Indian Express to publish it, but I have a duty to put the record straight by giving you fact which you may not be aware of.

Best

*Arif Mohammed Khan*

**To this I replied:**

**Dear Shri Arif Mohammed Khan,**

**Thank you for your note. I am too mundane a journalist to have any pretensions of being God. Also, I have no allegiance to any party, any ideology, any religion. My only allegiance is to my profession. I will happily publish your letter so that your views reach the public as freely as mine do. I trust God won't mind that...**

**George**

## QUOTE CORNER

We know some people in the United States are apprehensive about China's rapid development, but the most sustainable leadership is to constantly move forward yourself, rather than block the development of other countries

**Wang Yi,** China's Foreign Minister

Australia as a modern nation may be relatively young, but our country's story is ancient, as are the stories of the many First Nations peoples whose stewardship we rightly acknowledge and respect

**Scott Morrison,** Australia's Prime Minister

This summer, we will hold the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, which are a symbol of world unity. We will make steady preparations to realise a safe and secure event

**Yoshihide Suga,** Japan's Prime Minister

## MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

### No more Gandhians

After failing to get the anti-cow slaughter Bill passed in the Legislative Council, the Karnataka government has promulgated the same in the form of an ordinance. This Bill is a subjected to strident opposition from the Congress as well as certain sections of the society. The reasons are that the law affects the food habits of the people as well as their commercial interests. However, Article 48 of the Constitution enjoins upon the state to take steps to prohibit the slaughter of cows, calves and also milch and draught cattle in the interest of agriculture and animal husbandry. One also knows the attachment that Gandhiji had for cows and calves. The Constitution also makes it a fundamental duty for the citizens to have compassion for all living creatures, which is a principle borrowed from the Gandhian values. The present day Congressmen are not Gandhians and also do not have the slightest respect for the Gandhian values. If food habits and commercial interests are to override everything else, we should declare that we no longer respect the Gandhian philosophy and stop practising hypocrisy.

KR Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

### Saving our environment

Sir, The column 'The lessons that we learned from 2020' (Jan 2) is timely and incisive. There is a warning that we had long entangled with the ecology to meet our avaricious ends and it is high time we desist from it. The global human community must pay heed to it. Again, our governments must recognise their duties in creating adequate infrastructure in education and health sectors to meet arising needs and contingencies which might recur in future. These will complement the government's efforts in rebuilding and resuscitating the economy as well. However, the citizenry must also act in tune with their individual responsibilities sincerely to help retrieving the precious globe once gifted to us.

AM Chakravarty, Hyderabad

### Unions need to soften up

This refers to 'Hard talk by Unions before Monday talks'. The way farmers are hinting prior to the next round of talks, it seems negotiations are back to square one. Farmers are hell bent in cornering the government when it has demonstrated reasonable flexibility for a resolution of the deadlock. Strategy of farmers pushing the government against the wall is a wishful thinking when it has made it explicitly clear that farm laws shall not be repealed. It shall be a win-lose proposition if the government decides to kick the can down the road and keeps laws in abeyance to end the deadlock.

Deepak Singhal, Noida

### Heartbreaking suicide note of farmer

It was shocking to learn that Kashmir Singh Ladi, a 75-year-old protesting farmer, was found dead on Saturday at the Delhi-Ghaziabad border. He has committed suicide leaving a note, expressing his frustration over the stalemate in talks with the government on the new agricultural reform laws. It reads, "Till when shall we sit here in the cold? This government isn't listening at all. Hence, I give up my life so that some solution emerges." In the note, he also asks his grandsons to perform his final rites at the protest site itself. Several farmer deaths were reported from the protest sites. In spite of harsh winter, the farmers, even elderly ones, are determined to demonstrate. In such critical conditions, PM Narendra Modi should not ignore struggles of these food-providers. Hope he will giv consent to their demands soon.

M N Qasmi, Kolkata

### Miscarriage of justice

Sections of police across the country are known for being brute, politicised, non-professional, and devoid of common sense. Recall the brutal custodial deaths of father and son in Sathankulam! The self-immolation by a couple at Neyyattinkara the other day is the latest example of police incompetency. If the police, who came to evict the couple from the disputed land as per Munsiff court order, had used their discretion to wait for half an hour as pleaded for by the couple, the High Court stay order would have come and the couple saved from immolation. This marks a costly miscarriage of justice, calling for exemplary punishment of whoever is responsible. At least what was the counsel for the accused doing?

P Mangalachandran, Kannur

### Rajinikanth's political flip-flop

This is with reference to the editorial write-up 'Curtains down on Rajini factor' (Jan 2). Though Rajinikanth's exit from politics before his entry is on expected lines because of his inconsistency in taking a firm stand, it has shattered his fans' expectations and political pundits speculations into smithereens. Both Jayalalithaa and Karunanidhi ruled Tamil Nadu alternately because of their long connectivity with the masses. People used to vote either for AIADMK or DMK after sensing the pulse of the political leaders and changing their voting pattern in accordance with the changing political scenario. Jayalalithaa formed the government for two terms in succession because of her unparalleled governance, acumen, skill and self-confidence. Moreover, Rajini's spiritual politics will not be a cause for concern for the two Dravidian majors and his voice following his sudden withdrawal from the political spectrum will cut no ice with voters. Had Rajinikanth wished to enter politics and change the system, he should have thought twice as it is a Herculean task to capture power in TN without having any idiological, cultural and social bonding with the Tamilians. Confucius's beautiful lines, 'success depends upon previous preparation and without such preparation there is sure to be failure', is quite relevant in this context.

R Pichumani, Kumbakonam

### Not right to let guard down

This has reference to the news 'Dry run today, Vardhan checks preparedness'. The general impression is both the state governments and the Centre are earnest to commence the process of vaccination nationwide after the success of dry runs at different locations. The very word vaccination imbibed hope and security in the minds of the people where there is a chance of being oblivious to precautions. Prime Minister Modi already cautioned the nation that there cannot be any complacency and the cautions need to stay. Also WHO recently stated that vaccines are not magic bullets and people need to follow the safety measures religiously, namely social distancing and mask usage.

S Arjun Prasanna, Chennai

### Warring Church factions

It is unfortunate that two major Church factions of Kerala, the Orthodox and the Jacobite have been engaged in Court battles. Recently, the Supreme Court verdict came out in favour of the Orthodox church which authorises them to be the owner of all parishes of the Jacobite church with its physical properties. It's a paradox that both these factions have the same ways of conducting masses, prayers, rituals, customs etc. And, still they are ready to shed blood for holding on to the massive wealth they possess. As the Editorial points out, only genuine negotiations can solve the problem.

Ravi Mannethu, Pullad

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**TWEETS OF THE DAY**

**Omar Abdullah** @OmarAbdullah
The more people that get vaccinated the better it will be for the country & the economy. No vaccine belongs to any political party, they belong to humanity

**Sitaram Yechury** @SitaramYechury
The RSS-BJP agenda of trying to turn India's secular democratic Republic into a rabidly fascistic Hindutva rashtra... But they will not be allowed to succeed.

**Subramanian Swamy** @Swamy39
I am shocked to learn the Bharat Biotech a swadeshi company has already done 13K trials. ...Yet the Angrez has got the contract.

India had suspended UK flights from Dec 23 to Jan 7 to contain spread of new strain

# Covid negative report on arrival a must for returnees from UK

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ New Delhi

THE passengers reaching India from the UK between January 8 and January 30 will have to carry negative RT-PCR tests and will be subjected to self-paid Covid-19 tests on arrival, the Centre said in a standard operating procedure issued on Saturday.

Travellers from the UK will need to get their negative reports from tests done 72 hours prior to the journey, as per the guidelines.

India had suspended all flights to and from the UK from December 23 to 31 to check the spread of the mutated and more contagious variant of coronavirus found there. Later, the suspension was extended till January 7. The restrictions however will be relaxed from January 8 and 30 flights per week will operate between India and the UK in an arrangement that will continue till January 23.

"Airlines to ensure the availability of negative test reports before allowing the passenger to board the flight," the health ministry's SOP said, adding that adequate arrangements should be made for the passengers who will be waiting for their RT-PCR test or its results at the airport.

**Airlines to ensure the availability of negative test reports before allowing the passenger to board the flight. Passengers testing positive shall be isolated**

Health Ministry's SOP

"Passengers testing positive shall be isolated in an institutional isolation facility in a separate (isolation) unit coordinated by the respective state health authorities," the SOP said.

If the genomic sequencing indicates the presence of the new variant of SARS-CoV-2, the patient will continue to remain in a separate isolation unit, as per the guidelines.

The patient will be tested on the 14th day after having tested positive and he or she will be kept in the isolation facility till his or her sample has tested negative, it added.

If a passenger tests Covid-positive on arrival, passengers seated in the same row, three rows in front and three rows behind would also be subjected to institutional quarantine in separate quarantine centres, as per the planned protocol.

The passengers who are found Covid-negative after the tests conducted at the airport would be advised home quarantine for 14 days and the concerned state or district administration should regularly follow up with them.

## 'Those who had flight on Dec 23 to be accommodated'

NEW DELHI: Following government's announcement about resumption of India-UK flights from January 6, national carrier Air India said that those who had booked their flight on December 23 will be accommodated in the first flight out.

All the passengers had been contacted on December 22 and their booked flights were rescheduled. SMSes and mails have also been sent. The passengers who booked their flight on December 23 will be accommodated in the first flight out, said the airline.

Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri informed that flights from India to the UK would start two days prior, on January 6, while flights from the UK to India would start on January 8.

"Resumption of flights between India and UK — India to UK from 6 Jan 2021. UK to India from January 8, 2021. 30 flights will operate every week...15 each by Indian and UK carriers. This schedule is valid till January 23..." *ENS*

# SOREN: 'SELF-RELIANT' JHARKHAND WON'T NEED CENTRAL FUNDS

JHARKHAND Chief Minister **Hemant Soren** has said his government is making efforts to make the state self-sustaining so that it does not have to look towards central funds. In an interview with **Mukesh Ranjan** on completing one year in office, he asserts that the JMM-led alliance government is strongest among all the governments" in the last 20 years, as it was formed without any charges of horse-trading.

**How do you see the last one year of your government? What challenges did you face?**
I had to face various new challenges. We've handled them, and continue to deal with them, very efficiently. As we were able to manage the pandemic situation efficiently, today we are among the top three-four states where there is a better recovery rate and the fatality rate is the lowest in the country. Most importantly, I was the first chief minister who advocated for bringing our migrant labourers back to their homes, which actually meant inviting coronavirus to our state.

**Why do you think so? What makes you stand out among other states?**
You can recall that during the last BJP government, when there were no pandemic, more than two dozen people had died of starvation. But despite the pandemic this year, not a single person died of hunger in the last one year. One case of starvation death has been reported from Dhanbad, which is being investigated. Anybody found responsible for it will not be spared. We also provided free food to the poor and needy during lockdown. As far as providing job opportunities to the migrants is concerned, we created more than 8 crore mandays as compared to the maximum of 2.5-3 crore mandays created by the previous governments.

**The opposition has accused you of making fake promises during elections?**
If everything is closed and life has come to a standstill due to the lockdown, how do you expect any government to fulfill the promises? But, we made a good start and declared the results of Jharkhand Public Services Commission examination, which was held up by the earlier government for five years. We tried to utilise whatever opportunities we got during the lockdown. When we started taking steps towards them, we were surprised to see that they (the previous governments) have destroyed everything, which needs to be corrected to fulfill our promises. This is the reason why we took one long year to decide over the farm loan waiver.

A government would be able to offer to its people only if it has something in its pocket (treasury). As the financial condition of the state is not very sound, we will first set it right and then take up issues. We are working with an intention to protect the 'Adivasi-Moolwasi' of this state by providing them their due rights. This government will be different from any other government in the past.

**The Opposition also says that nothing was done during the last one year. What important decisions, according to you, have been taken in the last one year?**
There are several decisions which we have taken, whether it is social security, women's security, health or education sector, we have started taking steps towards strengthening the backbone of this state. Several new policies have been chalked out and reforms brought to make Jharkhand financially strong. Generally, all thinking runs around mineral resources, but we are working towards giving new directions to utilize other resources available under which new tourism and sports policies are framed. New rules for Jharkhand Public Services will be inaugurated in Jamshedpur very soon.

**You have frequently complained that the Centre is not supporting your government, particularly on clearing GST and other dues. What steps have you taken to overcome this situation?**
I believe there should be smooth coordination between the Centre and state government to strengthen the federal structure, but in the last one year, we've had a very bitter experience. For instance, on the one hand, the Damodar Valley Corporation was threatening to cut off the power supply and, on the other, funds were being reduced from our RBI consolidated fund and GST dues were also not cleared. Therefore, in order to shrink dependency on the Central government, several new policies have been chalked out and reforms brought in to make Jharkhand financially strong.

Efforts are being made to make Jharkhand self-sustaining so that it does not have to look towards the Centre for every requirement. Unfortunately, no efforts were made in the last 20 years towards making Jharkhand self-reliant. We are also pursuing with the Centre on clearing

Commission are made to avert controversies related to it. Since Jharkhand has a huge population of the underprivileged, we have decided to provide ration to additional 15 lakh people; there are provisions for universal old age pension, pension to widows. Jharkhand will be the first state where tribal students studying in foreign countries will get scholarships. Under the women empowerment scheme, liquor brewing women are being rehabilitated by providing alternative livelihood opportunities. In a revolutionary step, each district will have a model school which will be fully recognized by the Central Board of Secondary Education so that children of the underprivileged living in the remote areas could also get quality education.

Several new initiatives are being taken such as providing ₹1 lakh ex-gratia to family members of a road accident victim or any other accidents. Besides, a tribal university

our dues against the public sector, which is pending since independence following which the first installment of ₹250 crore was given, which is too little. We are regularly raising this issue with the Centre.

**Allegations are being made against the governing for not allowing Babulal Marandi to become leader of the Opposition in the Assembly?**
The BJP is strategically doing this as it knows that the government has to do a lot of work and the role of the leader of Opposition plays an important role in it. They want to stop us from doing any work so that they can exploit the issue for political gains.

They must know this government is the strongest among all the governments in the last two decades. This is not a government formed by horse-trading. Therefore, there must be a basis for making any allegations. The BJP is a leaderless party that lacks thinking.

# Covid-19 vaccine is permissible for Muslims: Clerics

**SANA SHAKIL** @ New Delhi

IN a bid to dispel rumours and doubts about the Covid-19 vaccine among Muslims, the Jamaat-e-Islami Hind (JIH) has said that the shots are permissible even if they contain pork gelatine.

*The New Indian Express* spoke to several Muslim scholars about the administration of the vaccine who appealed to Muslims to take the vaccine amid concerns among some about the presence of a prohibited substance in the vaccine, citing the higher need to "protect the human body".

Muslims consider the consumption of pork products 'haram', or forbidden under Islamic law.

President of the Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind and Principal of Darul Uloom Deoband Arshad Madani said there is no problem in taking the vaccine for Muslims. "Whatever saves human lives is permissible. We should take the vaccine and protect ourselves and everybody around us from Covid-19", Madani said.

General Secretary of AISPLB Maulana Yasoob Abbas urged all Muslims to take the vaccine. "People who are advocating against the use of vaccines are against Islam. Saving human lives is most important in Islam," he said.

Member of AISPLB Kamal Faruqui said, "Islam is not a closed door religion. It takes into account what is the requirement of humanity and emergencies too. It is sheer ignorance of the Islamic law on the part of some people who are making statements against the vaccine. This is the time to save humanity and life is of utmost importance in Islam."

A vaccination dry run under way in Daryaganj, Delhi, on Saturday | **SHEKHAR YADAV**

**Covid-19 vaccine dry run completed across India**

A dry run drill for administering coronavirus vaccines and plug loopholes in logistics and training was carried out in 116 districts across the country on Saturday. To review the preparations Union health minister Harsh Vardhan on Saturday visited two mock vaccination sites in the national capital to review the Covid-19 vaccination drive. The exercise is the second dry run being conducted in India. The Centre is planning to vaccinate 30 crore people in the next six to eight months, starting with the frontline workers. He added that details were being finalised about how 27 crore priority beneficiaries — those above 50 years of age and those below it having comorbidities — would be vaccinated until July.

**APPROVAL**

## Nod to Bharat Biotech vaccine raises eyebrows

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE arguments made in favour of Covaxin included its use of a familiar platform, capacity to generate antibodies against multiple proteins, promise of six to 12 months protection and T-cell response. "The company also argued that antibodies against multiple proteins instead of spikes alone raise hope that it might have a better chance against the mutated variants," a source in the committee said. A senior member of the national task force on Covid-19 expressed astonishment at development.

"There may be theoretical advantages such as potential benefits. But the rules of the game must be honoured under any circumstances," he said, adding that the move may draw backlash internationally, especially from bodies like the World Health Organization.

"There seems to be a political desire to release an Indian vaccine ahead of the visit of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and there was pressure from local groups," confirmed a member of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration on Covid-19.

# Former Congress leader's book may embarrass Rahul and party further

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ New Delhi

WITH the Congress set to hold presidential elections amidst Rahul Gandhi continued unwillingness to lead the party, suspended party leader Sanjay Jha says that former chief had failed to ensure a smooth transition to a new leader.

Jha's latest book *'The Great Unravelling: India after 2014'* comes at a time when the party is witnessing internal strife over leadership issue and several senior party leaders questioning party functioning and repeated routs in assembly elections.

The Congress is slated to hold presidential elections likely by next month and members of Team Rahul have been pitching for his return while he is not keen for the top job.

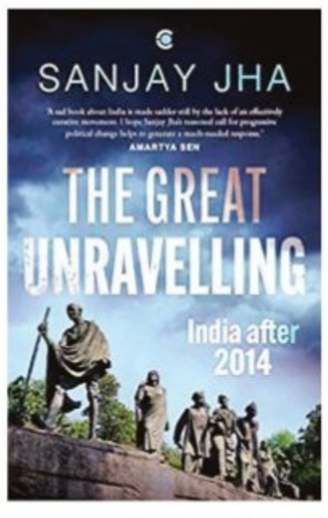
Former party spokesperson writes in his book that Rahul's sudden resignation after the 2019 debacle and his obdurate resistance to assuming charge damaged his political brand.

"While his acceptance of moral responsibility for the defeat was a noble move, it was political suicide: he was drawing attention to his leadership failure. Even more importantly, he had failed to ensure a smooth transition to a new leader," he writes.

On being targeted repeatedly for dynastic politics, Jha said that Rahul's assertion that no Gandhi would assume charge was a move correcting that perception but unfortunately, the Congress fumbled in its search for a replacement and frittered away an opportunity to start afresh.

"Post the May 2019 defeat, the Congress, in what is becoming a familiar pattern, withdrew into a dark shell. This inscrutable hibernation is mystifying. A party must subject itself to the highest public scrutiny. The Congress had won 20 per cent of the vote share, the second largest after the BJP's whopping 38 per cent. The Congress owed it to those voters to pick up the baton and run another marathon. But once Rahul quit as the president, the party became comatose," he added.

In comparition, the writer says, Rahul is more left-brained than Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. He prefers analytics, number-crunching data, facts and figures, and logical assessment in PPP. "A significant differentiator between Rahul and Priyanka is her sharp emotional intelligence relative to her brother. Priyanka's people-first approach is backed by the modern leadership theory that a successful leader must have a high emotional quotient," he notes.




**Post the May 2019 defeat, the Congress, in what is becoming a familiar pattern, withdrew into a dark shell. This inscrutable hibernation is mystifying**

Sanjay Jha

## Govt accepting 50 per cent of demands a lie, allege farmers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"ON the demand to repeal the three central farm laws the Central Government asked us to come up with alternative proposals. We responded by saying there was no alternative other than repeal. The government has refused to agree even in principle to our other demand of legal right to purchase at MSP," Rajewal said.

"In the sixth round of talks with the government we asked them if it will buy 23 crops at MSP and they said no. Then why are you misinforming the people of the country?" Gurnam Singh Choduni asked.

Some farm leaders claimed that more than 50 farmers had died during the agitation.

"It's a plain lie that the government has accepted 50 per cent of the demands. We have got nothing on paper yet," said Yogendra Yadav, president of Swaraj India.

The seventh round of talks between the government and the protesting farmers is scheduled to be held on January 4.

**Farmer ends life**

A 75-year-old farmer, Kashmir Singh, committed suicide at UP Gate by hanging himself from the ceiling of a mobile toilet on Saturday morning. Police said Singh, who was from Rampur district in western UP, left behind a suicide note saying his last rites should be performed by his grandson at the protest site itself. "However, it is likely that his body will be sent to his native place and handed over to his family," said BKU national media co-ordinator Shamsher Rana. He claimed that the deceased farmer, in his suicide note, blamed the government for his action saying it was not accepting the demands of the farmers.

## B'desh armed forces get invite for R-Day

NEW DELHI: THE 122-member of Bangladesh Armed Forces (tri-services) contingent is expected to take part in Republic Day Parade 2021 as a special invitee. It is the golden jubilee year of the Bangladesh's independence in which India supported the nation in 1971 war.

According to sources the dates of arrival and departure are January 12 and 30 respectively and the contingent will be following all the Covid protocols and will be quarantined from Jan12-19 2021.

The Bangladesh contingent will be carrying their own ceremonial rifles and band members.

The Indian Air Force has extended help in ferrying the contingent to and from Bangladesh in its planes.

ENS

**POLICE ON A MISSION**

The Gautam Buddh Nagar Police has launched a campaign to check forced child begging and send the rescued children, who have lost their way out of education for myriad reasons, back to classrooms, officials said

**64k TOURISTS** HAVE VISITED KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK SINCE OCT

| INDIA | Max | Min | | Max | Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 26 | 12 | Mumbai | 30 | 23 |
| Bhopal | 26 | 8 | Panaji | 32 | 24 |
| Jaipur | 22 | 11 | Patna | 22 | 12 |
| Amritsar | 20 | 7 | Lucknow | 20 | 9 |
| Chennai | 29 | 24 | Port Blair | 31 | 25 |
| Kolkata | 22 | 10 | Imphal | 23 | 8 |
| Srinagar | 3 | 1 | Chandigarh | 27 | 8 |

**Past troubles**

In the past too, the Gujarat born and Mumbai-based stand-up comedian Munawar Faruqui had landed in trouble for reportedly making derisive comments about Hindu gods-goddesses. In April 2020, he was booked by the police in Prayagraj district of Uttar Pradesh over a YouTube video in which he was seen mocking at the PM

Munawar Faruqui

# Stand-up comedian among 5 in the soup over quip on deities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bhopal

FIVE men, including Mumbai-based stand-up comedian Munawar Faruqui, were arrested in Indore in connection with a New Year show in which derisive comments were allegedly made about Hindu deities and Union home minister Amit Shah.

The five arrested on Friday evening, included three stand-up comedians, among them Munawar Faruqui from Mumbai, two brothers Prakhar Prateek Vyas and Priyam Prateek Vyas (Indore), Nalin Yadav (Dhar), and event co-ordinator Edwin Anthony (Indore).

But Muktesh Jain, who owns the popular café, where the event was held on Friday evening, was not even booked in the matter as he reportedly told the police that he was not aware that such an event was being organised at his café.

The café owner's claims of being ignorant seemed surprising, especially given that there was a big flex hoarding outside the café well informing the public about the New Year show and the entry fees, well in advance of the New Year's Eve.

"The five were booked under IPC sections 188, 269,298, 295A and 34 of IPC for organising the event sans official permission, flouting Covid-19 safety norms and hurting religious sentiments. All the arrested men were produced before the Indore CJM court on Saturday.

> Derisive comments were not only made at the event about the Hindu deities, but similar offensive comment was made against Shah by dragging his name in the Godhra violence
>
> Eklayva Gaur, son of BJP MLA Malini Gaur

The court has sent them into 14-days judicial custody," inspector in-charge of Indore's Tukoganj police station Kamlesh Sharma told *The New Indian Express*.

The five were booked on a complaint lodged by local saffron outfit Hind Rakshak Sangathan's head Eklavya Singh Gaur, who is a son of former Indore mayor and BJP's MLA Malini Gaur. Eklavya Gaur and members of his outfit was present at the event.

# UP panchayat elections likely in March

Dates for the much-awaited polls expected next month; delimitation of wards to be completed by January 14

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

ALREADY delayed, the three-tier rural local body polls are likely to take place in Uttar Pradesh between March 15 and 30. However, the official announcement of dates is likely by around February 15.

According to Panchayati Raj Minister Bhupendra Chaudhary, the work of delimitation of wards is underway while reorganiation of gram sabhas has been completed. The four districts of Moradabad, Gonda, Sambhal and Gautam Budh Nagar are under full delimitation and the work for districts under partial delimitation is going on.

The tenure of 60,000-gram panchayats of the state had ended on December 25. The polls have been delayed on account of the pandemic as the revision of the voters' list and other modalities could not be completed as per the schedule. Talking to media persons, Panchayati Raj Minister stated that by January 14 the delimitation work would be completed, following which the work on reservation will be concluded. As of now, the reservation for gram panchayat seats was fixed at district headquarters, however, this time the process has been moved online. The reservation of seats for gram sabha, Block Development Council, Gram Pradhan, and Zilla panchayat members in gram panchayats will be decided from Lucknow.

**BJP to chalk out strategy**

The BJP will chalk out its strategy for the coming panchayat elections at a meeting on Sunday which is likely to be attended by the national vice president

The population of revenue villages will be assessed to implement reservation in panchayats. The state government has appointed district assistant development officers of as panchayat administrators of their districts, vesting in them the powers of panchayat committees and village panchayat heads following the expiry of the terms of village panchayats on December 25.

However, the panchayat elections in UP are being considered as a semi-final ahead of the 2022 Assembly election due in the state. With an eye on assembly elections, various political parties have stepped up their preparations.

# Patil to write to *Saamana* over language

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA BJP president Chandrakant Patil has decided to write a letter to the editor of *Saamana,* Rashmi Thackeray, over the alleged use of objectionable "personalised" language in Shiv Sena's mouthpiece against him and the Opposition.

"The Opposition has been criticised using below the belt language in its edit page. I am sure *Saamana* editor Rashmi Thackeray would not write and approve such kind of language against the Opposition. I wish to remind her about this by writing a letter," said Patil.

Patil also charged that *Saamana* has been writing "personalised" pieces targeting him. "I have been regularly targeted in Saamana. I recently demanded renaming Aurangabad as a Sabhaji Nagar, while criticising me, *Saamana* wrote that this demand was made by late Balasaheb Thackeray 30 years ago, when I was a small baby and wetting the bed. Will the editor Rashmi Thackeray approve such personalised and below the belt language against me. I want to inform that the language of *Saamana* should be improved," Patil said.

*Saamana* recently stirred a controversy by arguing that if the conflict between the Centre and states continue, India may breakup like the Soviet Union. *Saamana* said it is the responsibility of the Centre to keep the interest of the state governments, otherwise the states may be pushed to take "a dangerous path".

> It is one of the newspapers in Maharashtra that published in Marathi but its news is read in many languages. This is because of language and punch in articles. The Opposition should not worry about the paper
>
> Anil Parab, Sena leader

**'Writing nonsense'**

BJP MLA Ashish Shelar charged that Sanjay Raut, who is the executive editor of *Saamana, has* "lost control over his brain" and is writing "nonsense"

# Shiv Sena confident of renaming Aurangabad

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

SHIV Sena is confident of renaming Aurangabad as Sambhaji Nagar despite Opposition strong from the Congress party which is one of Sena's alliance partners in Maharashtra.

Sena leader Sanjay Raut on Saturday said Aurangabad Municipal Corporation has already passed the resolutions of renaming Aurangabad as Sambhaji Nagar.

"Now, the proposal is submitted to the state government for final approval. After consulting the alliance partners of Maha Vikas Aghadi, the decision over renaming Aurangabad will be taken soon. There is no issue in government. It is doing well. There are some issues that can be resolved amicably," said Raut.

Shiv Sena demands to change one of the major industrial city names from Aurangabad to Sambahi Nabagr. The city was named earlier after the 16th century Mughal Emporer Aurangazeb while Sena demands to name the same city after Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, son of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj who was tortured and killed by Aurangazeb.

However, former Congress chief minister and minister in Uddhav Thackeray government, Ashok Chavan said that it is the firm stand of the Congress party not to rename any city. He said it is a three-party government in Maharashtra that includes Shiv Sena, Congress, and the NCP.

**CURIOUS CASE**

## Mysterious deaths of 1,200 birds probed

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

ABOUT 1,200 migratory birds have died over the last week under mysterious circumstances at the Pong Dam wetlands in Himachal Pradesh.

The birds include endangered bar-headed goose, black-headed gull, river tern, common teal and shoveler. Some of the birds were reportedly exhibiting strange behaviour before they were found dead, sources said.

Their carcasses have been sent to different laboratories, including the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in Bareilly and Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in Jalandhar to determine their cause of death. Post-mortems performed on some of the birds have ruled out poisoning as the cause.

**EXPRESS READ**

### Maoist, wife lynched by villagers in J'khand

Srinagar: Maoist Prakash Singh Bhokta and his wife Premani Devi were beaten to death by villagers in Kundilpur area under Manatu Police Station in Palamu, Jharkhand on Saturday. According to the police, the incident took place late in the night on Friday after the extremist killed one of his neighbors amid a heated argument over a peice of land. "After Vinod Singh was shot dead by Maoist Prakash Singh Bhokta, angered family members and relatives, snatched his weapon and beat him to death with batons," police said. When his wife Premani Devi tried to intervene, she also came under attack and was killed, the police said.

### Fog: 3 killed, 6 hurt in UP truck collision

Lucknow: Three people were killed and six more injured in a head-on collision between a truck and a sand-laden dumper on the Lucknow-Agra expressway due to reduced visibility caused by fog, police said on Saturday. The dumper was on the wrong side of the road when it collided with the truck coming from Rajasthan in the Usrahar police station area on Friday evening, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Akash Tomar said. Two of the deceased were identified as Hiralal Meena, 24 and Dholu Meena, 19 of Dausa, Rajasthan, and the identity of the third person is being ascertained, he said. The injured have been admitted to PGI Saifai, the SSP added.

**SNOW PLAYS SPOILSPORT**

Tourists vehicles stuck in a traffic jam, caused by heavy snowfall, in South Portal of Atal Tunnel in Lahaul-Spiti on Saturday | PTI

# Air Force in complex mission to douse wildfire in Dzukou Valley

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
@Guwahati

THE Indian Air Force (IAF) has begun a complex operation to douse the wildfire raging in the ecologically-sensitive Dzukou Valley on the Nagaland-Manipur border.

With the help of Bambi Buckets, the IAF pilots are lifting thousands of liters of water from a nearby water body in Nagaland's Dimapur district and dumping them over the wildfire.

"The practical difficulties will be precision dropping of water. Since it is a hilly region and there is air turbulence, steady flying will not be easy," a retired IAF pilot told *TNIE*.

Four IAF helicopters have been pressed into action. The Air Force's help was sought by the Nagaland government

Two days ago, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh stated that the fire had crossed Mount ASIi, the highest peak in the state.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is taking stock of the situation. He has assured Singh of all assistance from the Centre. Singh has also requested the Army and the Assam Rifles to extend their help in controlling the inferno, which broke out four days ago.

In Nagaland, the authorities are trying to control the blaze through traditional "fire line cutting". Personnel from State Disaster Response Force, police and forest departments besides volunteers are deployed to the site.

A wildfire has been raging in the Dzukou Valley since Tuesday | PTI

# Sigh of relief for Rajasthan tourism as holidays bring visitors

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

THE new year has brought new hope for Rajasthan's tourism industry badly crippled by the pandemic. Covid has brought a massive slump in revenue to the state's tourism sector, which employs close to 15 per cent of all people in the state

But, the new year has seen thousands of tourists flocking to several popular sites across the state. In Jaipur alone, more than 20,000 people visited different tourist attractions on the first day of 2021.

Known as the Pink City, Jaipur is a part of the Golden Triangle of Indian tourism, along with Delhi and Agra. If the city welcomed about 15,000 tourists on December 31, the following day the number of visitors climbed to over 20,000. Most visitors flocked to six major sites including the famous Amber and Nahargarh forts. Most tourists were seen wearing masks as precautions against Covid-19 as they toured the historic city.

On the first day of the new year, the Hawa Mahal was decorated with colourful Rangolis to welcome tourists. Similarly, at the Amber Fort people enjoyed joy rides on elephants The Pink City is home to more than a hundred elephants that mostly live in the Elephant Village, close to the Amber Fort.

**467 new Covid-19 cases**

Rajasthan recorded 467 fresh Covid-19 cases and five deaths due to the disease on Saturday. According to the health department, the fresh cases took the infection tally to 3,09,319

For centuries, these elephants have been a part of Jaipur's royal history. In recent decades, elephant rides at the historic Fort have been a prime attraction for tourists visiting the Pink City. However, the pandemic had brought the elephant rides to a standstill.

Now, as tourists have returned after a nine-month-long gap, the elephant owners are happy. As Ballu Khan, the President of the Haathi Gaon Vikas Samiti remarked, "after huge suffering in the past year, we are delighted by the tourists coming in the past week. We hope this momentum will continue all through January. Schools are shut and lots of tourists have come from Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Our elephants are again busy in giving rides to tourists. This is a great beginning to the new year, we hope it continues."

On January 1, while the Amber Fort saw 5,960 tourists, Nahargrah fort saw 4851 tourists, the Jantar Mantar attracted 3069 and another 2189 tourists visited the Albert Hall Museum.

### Annual Book Fair postponed due to Covid-19

The 45th edition of the International Kolkata Book Fair will not be held in January because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Publishers and Booksellers Guild that organises the annual event said. The guild also said it was not in a position to say when the fair would be held. The book fair was scheduled to be held from January 27. "It would have made little or no sense holding the fair in January with just a limited number of book lovers visiting just a handful of stalls. That's not what the Kolkata book fair is all about," said a guild official

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
pranabm@newindianexpress.com

**KOLKATA** DIARY

### Appointed day for launch of five universities out

West Bengal's education department has issued a notification mentioning the appointed day, which marks the formal launch of five universities—Biswa Bangla University in Birbhum, Kanyashree University in Nadia, Mahatma Gandhi University in East Midnapore, Hindi University in Howrah and Rani Rashmoni Green University in Hooghly. The absence of the appointed day, a university cannot seek UGC's recognition and this is why the notification was issued, said an official of the higher education department. The appointed day for all-women Kanyashree University in Nadia is November 10. For Mahatma Gandhi university, the appointed day is December 10 The five universities were the latest initiative of Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee.

### Forest department studying tiger behaviour

An adult male tiger was fitted with a radio collar before being released in the Harikhali forest of the Sunderbans to study its behaviour and track its whereabouts in the mangroves. The exercise was carried out by the wildlife wing of the state forest department in collaboration with the WWF. While earlier-data from radio-collared big cats was used to decode home range and territory in the Sunderbans, foresters want to ascertain their movement pattern near human settlements. The male tiger was caught by foresters last week for the purpose of fitting the radio collar.

### Canal, blocked to build bridge, to be restored

A stretch of a canal that had been blocked to build the Majherhat bridge will be restored by the middle of January, said engineers of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) raising hopes that Kidderpore and Moninpur would face less waterlogging in next monsoon. The canal drains out rainwater from large parts of Kidderpore and Morninpur into the Hooghly. The Public Works Department had blocked a 33-metre long stretch of the 2-km long canal to facilitate the construction of the Majherhat bridge. The affected stretch lies just below the bridge.

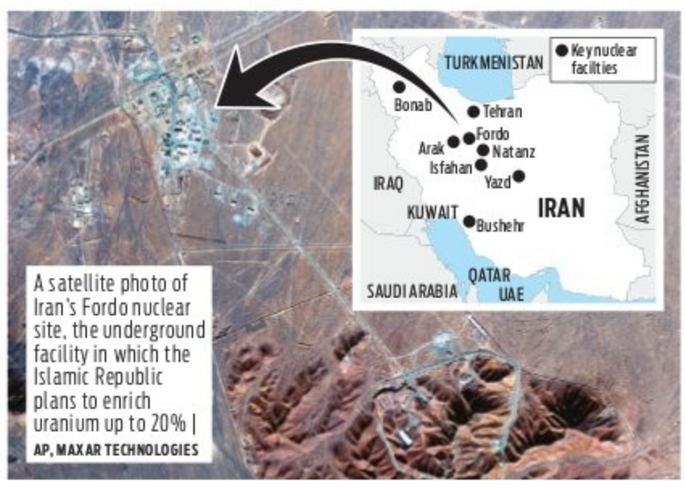
**1,827,901**
have died after testing positive for Covid-19 since the coronavirus emerged in December, as per *AFP*

**GLOBAL WEATHER**
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beijing | -2 | -9 | SNY | Los Angeles | 17 | 7 | SNY |
| Colombo | 30 | 23 | TDS | Melbourne | 22 | 16 | TDS |
| Dhaka | 26 | 13 | SNY | Moscow | 0 | -1 | LC |
| Dubai | 24 | 13 | SNY | New York | 4 | 2 | HR |
| Houston | 19 | 9 | SNY | Singapore | 30 | 23 | TDS |
| Istanbul | 14 | 10 | LC | Toronto | 2 | 1 | LC |
| London | 6 | 3 | LC | Washington | 5 | 3 | LR |

# Iran ups nuclear ante before President-elect Biden is sworn in

Islamic Republic says it plans to enrich uranium up to 20% in breach of nuclear deal, adding pressure on Joe Biden; our fingers are on the triggers, says Iranian official



A satellite photo of Iran's Fordo nuclear site, the underground facility in which the Islamic Republic plans to enrich uranium up to 20% | AP, MAXAR TECHNOLOGIES

**DUBAI**

IRAN said on Saturday it plans to enrich uranium up to 20% at its underground Fordo nuclear facility "as soon as possible," pushing its program a technical step away from weapons-grade levels as it increases pressure on the West over the tattered atomic deal.

The move comes amid heightened tensions between Iran and the U.S. in the waning days of the administration of President Donald Trump, who unilaterally withdrew America from Tehran's nuclear deal in 2018.

That set in motion an escalating series of incidents capped by a U.S. drone strike that killed a top Iranian general in Baghdad a year ago, an anniversary coming Sunday that has American officials now worried about possible retaliation by Iran.

Iran's decision to begin enriching to 20% a decade ago nearly brought an Israeli strike targeting its nuclear facilities, tensions that only abated with the 2015 atomic deal. A resumption of 20% enrichment could see that brinksmanship return. Even Ali Akbar Salehi, the U.S.-educated head of the civilian Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, offered a military analogy to describe his agency's readiness to take the next step.

"We are like soldiers and our fingers are on the triggers," Salehi told Iranian state television. "The commander should command and we shoot. We are ready for this and will produce (20% enriched uranium) as soon as possible."

Iran's decision comes after its parliament passed a bill, later approved by a constitutional watchdog, aimed at hiking enrichment to pressure Europe into providing sanctions relief. It also serves as pressure ahead of the inauguration of US President-elect Joe Biden, who has said he is willing to re-enter the nuclear deal.

### IAEA confirms decision

The International Atomic Energy Agency acknowledged Iran had informed its inspectors of the decision by a letter after news leaked overnight Friday. "Iran has informed the agency that in order to comply with a legal act recently passed by the country's parliament, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran intends to produce low-enriched uranium ... up to 20 percent at the Fordo Fuel Enrichment Plant," the IAEA said in a statement.

The IAEA added Iran did not say when it planned to boost enrichment, though the agency "has inspectors present in Iran on a 24/7 basis and they have regular access to Fordo." The parliamentary bill also called on Iran to expel those inspectors, though it appears Tehran still hasn't decided to take that step.

Salehi said Iran would need to switch out natural uranium in centrifuges at Fordo for material already enriched to 4% to begin the process of going to 20%. "It should be done under IAEA supervision," Salehi added. *AP*

# New window of hope opening up in US ties: China

**BEIJING**

AS Joe Biden is set to assume power this month, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Saturday hoped that the US President-elect would end the incumbent Donald Trump's 'Cold War' policy towards Beijing and return to a 'sensible approach' by restoring normal ties.

The Trump administration launched a broadside against China on all fronts, including trade, Tibet and Taiwan besides, scathing criticism against the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) headed by President Xi Jinping.

The Chinese side hopes that the next US administration will return to a sensible approach, resume dialogue with China, restore normalcy to the bilateral relations and restart cooperation, Wang, who is also a State Councillor, told the state-run Xinhua news agency in an interview.

"China-US relations have come to a new crossroads, and a new window of hope is opening," he said.

Biden, who defeated President Trump in the November 8 Presidential election, is scheduled to take over on January 20, formally ending the Trump era which saw the US-China ties touch a new low.

Wang said that in recent years, the US-China relations have run into unprecedented difficulties.

Fundamentally, it all comes down to the serious misconceptions of US policymakers about China. Some see China as the so-called biggest threat and their China policy based on this misperception is simply wrong, he said.

"What has happened proves that the US' attempt to suppress China and start a new Cold War has not just seriously harmed the interests of the two peoples, but also caused severe disruptions to the world. Such a policy will find no support and is doomed to fail.

"We are ready to develop with the United States a relationship based on coordination, cooperation and stability. We know that some in the US are uneasy about China's rapid development. However, the best way to keep one's lead is through constant self-improvement, not by blocking others' development," he said. *PTI*

# 1,200 booked in France as NY rave ends after 2 days



Party-goers at a rave in a disused hangar in Lieuron, France, on Friday | AFP

**RENNES**

HUNDREDS of revellers were booked for breaking coronavirus restrictions as an illegal rave in northwestern France ended on Saturday after more than two days of partying that saw clashes with police.

Police had failed to stop the underground event, which drew around 2,500 people from Thursday night in two disused warehouses in Lieuron, south of the city of Rennes in Brittany. Such mass gatherings are banned across France to prevent the spread of Covid-19, and a nationwide 8:00 pm curfew -- which was not lifted for New Year -- has been in force across the country.

Techno music blared out during the night from the warehouses, which had been transformed into illegal nightclubs for partygoers who had flocked to the site from across France and even from abroad.

The local prefecture said Saturday the music had been switched off and sound systems dismantled after two nights, and the first revellers began leaving the site before dawn. By 10:15 am it was under the control of police, the local prefecture said.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said police had booked more than 1,200 people and seized a truck, sound equipment and generators from the site of the "illegal rave party." The large police presence had led to the break-up of the event "without violence", he added. The regional prefect, Emmanuel Berthier, said 800 people had been booked specifically for virus-related offences such as failing to respect curfew or wear masks, or for participating in an illegal assembly. *AFP*

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**TAMIL NADU FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**
Egmore, Chennai - 600 008
NOTICE INVITING GLOBAL / OPEN TENDER - NOTICE NO: 03 / 2020

Separate sealed tenders are invited directly from reputed manufacturers or from their authorized distributors/dealers for the following items:-

| | Description of the item | Quantity | EMD amount in (Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Global Tender: | Aerial Ladder Platform of 54 meter | 1 | 12,00,000/- |
| Open Tender: | Heavy Duty Dewatering Pumps | 6 | 48,000/- |

For more details of the tender such as Tender document fees, mode of EMD payment, Specifications etc. and for the tender documents please visit "http://www.tnfrs.tn.nic.in" and the tender documents can be downloaded at free of cost from the Department web site.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | The last date and time for sale of Tender documents | 09.02.2021 at 12.00 hours |
| 2. | The last date and time for receipt all tenders | 09.02.2021 at 14.00 hours |
| 3. | Date and time for opening of the Tender Documents | 09.02.2021 at 14.30-15.00 hours |

Place : Chennai-8. Date : 30.12.2020 DIPR / 5108 / TENDER / 2020
Tender Inviting Authority
Directorate of Fire and Rescue Services, Tamil Nadu Contact No. 044-28554309

Government of Karnataka
**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICER,**
Kalaburagi, Tq. & Dist. Kalaburagi. E-mail: dhogulbarga@gmail.com, Ph. : 08472-278619

No.: Personnel/Development/CR/02/2018-19 Date: 30.12.2020

**SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTICE**

Subject: Regarding inviting Short-Term Tender through e-procurement for availing services of Specialist Doctors, Medical Officers, Ayush Doctors, Radiology Technicians, Nurses, C.H.O., Data Entry Operator and Group –D workers on Outsource Basis under D.M.F. Scheme for the year 2018-19.

**Tender information is as below. (Website: http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)**

1) Starting date for tender submission : **02.01.2021,** 2) Last date for submission of tender : **09.01.2021 at 4.00 PM,** 3) Date of opening Technical Bid: **11.01.2021 at 4.00 PM,** 4) Tender Financial Bid: Financial Bids of contractors eligible in the Technical Bid will be considered on **13-01-2021**, 5) Tender E.M.D.: **Rs. 6,75,100/-,** 6) Contact Officer and Address Phone No.: Office of the District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Kalaburagi Phone No.: 08472-278619.

**Sd/- District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Kalaburagi**

DIP/Kalaburagi/686/MC&A/2020-21

**IN THE COURT OF THE 23rd ADDITIONAL CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU**
**C.MIS. No. 5145/2020**

Between:
1) **Mamatha,** W/o. Late Ramesh, Aged about 42 years,
2) **Chaithra,** D/o. Late Ramesh, Aged about 24 years,
3) **Chetan,** D/o. Late Ramesh, Aged about 23 years,
4)**Chithra,** D/o. Late Ramesh, Aged about 22 years,
All are residing at No.37, Jayanthi Nagar, 2nd Cross, Bengaluru- 560 043 ...**Petitioners**

AND

**The Commissioner** Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Registrar of Births and Deaths, Bengaluru ...**Respondent**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas the above named petitioners have made petition to this Court under 13(3) of Birth and Death Registration Act for the grant of Death Certificate in the name of Ramesh S/o. Late Nagappa died on 05-09-2012 at his residence No.37, Jayanthi Nagar, 2nd Cross, Bengaluru- 560 043 in favour of the petitioners, No.1 being wife and 2,3 & 4 are children of Late Ramesh. Interested parties are hereby called to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by pleader duly instructed on **18-01-2021 at 11 A. M** as to show cause against the petitioners if any. Failing which the Court considers it as no objection and pass necessary orders.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this the 02-01-2021 at Bengaluru.

**By Order Of The Court**
*Sd/-* **Sheristedar,**
**XXIII ACMM Court**, Bengaluru.

**Niveditha Prakash, Advocate,**
No.18 A, 2nd Floor, HMS Complex,
Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengalore-560 002.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The General Public is hereby notified that our clients Sri Ashok Jain and Sri Mahendra Jain are the joint and absolute owners of the schedule property, they having acquired the same from Dr. B. Sagunarthy and others in terms of registered sale deed dated 06/3/2008 bearing document number 5522/2007-08.

Our clients Sri Ashok Jain and Sri Mahendra Jain have lost original 1) power of attorney executed by Vimalarthy Das Kareti and Sumathi Chandrashekar in favour of Sri B. Shivarthy and 2) power of attorney executed by Dr. B. Sagunarthy, Dr. Rabindra Sagunarthy and Dr. Kavi Sagunarthy in favour of Sri. Balakrishna Das .N related to schedule property. In this connection, a police complaint has been lodged on **02/01/2021.**

Any person finds the document may handover the same to the undersigned within **07 days** from this day. If the said document is misused by anybody, it shall not be binding on our clients and he / she shall be doing so at their own costs and risks

Further, Any person (s), having any manner of right, title, interest, claim etc., over the Schedule Property may lodge his /her /their / its objections or claims in writing with all supporting documentary evidence with regard to such claims with the undersigned within **07 days** hereof, failing which, our client will proceed to complete the transaction. Any objections/ claims received thereafter will not be entertained /binding on our client

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing number 189, Gandhi Bazaar, Basavanagdi, Bangalore - 560 004, admeasuring East to West : 40 Feet and North to South : 60 Feet, totally measuring 2400 Square Feet along with residential building thereon ,and bounded on.

East by : Mission Property
West by : H.B.Samaja Link Road
North by : Road (Conservancy Lane)
South by : Property belonging to Mr.Ramakrishnadas Family

**H.K. GIRISH,** ADVOCATE
# 82, 1st Floor, 41st Cross,
03rd Main, 08th Block, Jayanagara,
Bangalore – 560 070.
Ph - 080-26632343 / 8867044666
Place: Bangalore Date: 02/01/2021

**(Public Works, Ports and Inland Water Transport Department)**
**Executive Engineer, Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.**

**Short-Term Tender postponement Notification**
**I.F.T. No.: 13-2/2020-21 Date: 01.01.2021**

(For Road and Building Works – As per Standard Bidding Document K.W. – 2 in single cover, two cover system)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, the Undersigned invites Tenders in single cover system through e-procurement portal from eligible Contractors registered in PWD. Those interested in participating in the tender can submit the tenders **from 04.01.2021 to 12.01.2021 up to 4.00 pm.**

**(1)** Last date for objections-doubts and clarifications: **04.01.2021 (at 3.00 pm during office hours) (2)** Last date for submission of filled tenders: **12.01.2021 (up to 4.00 pm) (3)** Date of opening financial bid: **15.01.2021 at 11.00 am.** For more information visit website **www.kpwd.gov.in** or contact this office during office hours.

**Sd/- Manjunath L.N. Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.**
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಆರ್.ಟಿ.ಸಂ೦ಖ್ಯೆ260/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2020–21

**SHRI BHIMASHANKAR SAHAKARI SAKKARE KHARKANE NIYAMIT MARAGUR**
SITE AT MARAGUR Post: Margur - 586204 Taluka: Indi Dist: Vijaypura Karnataka
Email: sales.bsskn@gmail.com
Ref No.BSSKN/Sales/Sugar-Export/2020-21/ Date:02.01.2021

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE FOR EXPORT OF WHITE SUGAR**

Sealed tender are invited for export of sugar under open general license for own and third party export against scheme of Maximum Admissible export quantity (MAEQ) Quota vide Govt. of India notification No.1 (6)/2020-SP-I Dated 29th December,2020 for Season 2020-21 from recognized reputed exporters.

| | |
|---|---|
| Production | 2019-20 and 2020-21 Season |
| Quantity | 4966 MT (MAEQ Quota) |
| Grade | White Crystal sugar |
| Quality | White sugar ICUMSA below 100 by method – 10 |
| Packing | 50 Kg PP bags |
| Deposit | Rs, 1000/per MT |
| Payment | Before delivery by RTGS |
| Delivery | Ex-factory as per terms and conditions |
| Taxes formality | All Taxes formalities to be completed by the Exporter |
| Inspection | On buyer's account |
| Subsidy | As announced by the State Govt./Central Govt .will be on Factory A/c Including Transport Subsidy |

The Exporter shall submit proof of his registration with DGFT and APEDA exporter shall mention the name of country, where sugar will be export. All terms and conditions under OGL binding on exporter. Please offer your Ex-Factory gate rates please submit tender with best rate. Along with E.M.D @2% on the quoted price of the above quantity in the form of D.D( Of any nationalized bank only) in the name of SHRI BHIMASHANKAR SAHAKARI SAKKARE KHARKANE NIYAMIT MARAGUR. Last date for submission of dully filled tenders at the above office address is on or before 10th January 2021 up to 5.00 pm the tender negotiation date will be intimated afterwards.

The sugar factory reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning the reason there off.

The export documents should be submitted within 60 days from the day of issue of the last bill of lading.

**For details contact: Sales Officer: 9606903820**

**Sd/-** MANAGING DIRECTOR **Sd/-** CHAIRMAN

# CLASSIFIEDS

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
CHANGE OF NAME

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **PRAVEEN JOSHI** S/o. Vasudev Joshi R/a #580, Balaji Residency, SF-4, Ideal Homes Township, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore-560098 Declare That My Minor Son's Names **PRATHIT P JOSHI (PRATHIT PRAVEEN JOSHI)** and **PRATHIT JOSHI** are One and The Same Person, **Henceforth, Known as PRATHIT P JOSHI** Vide Affidavit Dated;30-12-2020 Sworn Before Notary K.V. Prema Kumari, Bangalore-98.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **ABDUL MAJEED RAHIL MUSHTAQ AHMED** S/o **MUSHTAQ AHMED**, R/at No. 52/4, 3rd Floor, Promanade Road, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to **ABDUL MAJEED RAHIL** vide affidavit dated:31/12/2020 Before Notary **H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SHANKAR, SHANKAR.V, SHIVARUDRAIAH.V** S/o Veerabhadre Gowda Resident of No 4/16, 3rd Cross, Lingayyanapalya, Halasuru, Bangalore-560008. Karnataka, India, Shall Henceforth be Known As **SHIVARUDRAIAH SHANKAR.V,** vide affidavit dated 02/01/2021, before Notary S.Samuel Solomon, Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**
I, **SANCHITA .R** D/o V.K. Raghunath, R/a #424, 16th Cross, 2nd Main, K.P.C. Layout, Kasavanahalli, Carmelaram Post, Bengaluru-560035, declare that both the names **SANCHITA .R** and **K.R. SANCHITA** refers/pertains to me and in future I shall be known and called as **SANCHITA .R,** vide affidavit dated 29-12-2020 before Notary **S. RAMESH** at Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **ROOPAKUMARI**, R/at No.13, 1st Cross, Srinivagilu, Near Varamuneshwar Temple, Vivek Nagar, Bangalore- 560047, have changed my name to **RADHA MELVIN** vide affidavit dated:31/12/2020 Before Notary **B.M.Chandrashekar** Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SHABIYA SULTANA,** W/o Hidayathulla Khan, R/at No.9/1, Flat No.201, Manito Mansion, 1st Block, 2nd cross, 2nd Main, Dinnur, R.T.Nagar Post, Bangalore -560071. Have changed my name from **'SHABIYA SULTANA'** to **'SABEEHA SULTANA'** Vide Affidavit dated 02.01.2021. Sworn before Advocate and Notary PRAKASH.C, Bengaluru.

**AFFIDAVIT**
I, **AMUDHA .N** W/o V.K. Raghunath, R/a #424, 16th Cross, 2nd Main, K.P.C. Layout, Kasavanahalli, Carmelaram Post, Bengaluru-560035, declare that both the names **NITHIN .R** and **K.R. NITHIN** refers/pertains to my minor son and in future my son may be known and called as **NITHIN .R,** vide affidavit dated 29-12-2020 before Notary **S. RAMESH** at Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SATEESH KUMAR PATIL,** S/o Late Shrishail. V. Patil, Aged about 45 years, R/at No.251, Sai Shakthi Enclave, GF-8, B Block, Halagevaderahalli, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560 098, have changed my daughter's name from **SMRUTI** to **"SMRITI S PATIL"**. vide affidavit dated 05.12.2015 sworn to before Notary **Ravi,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **DIMPU AJAY,** R/at No.529, Belur, A.M.S Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097. I have changed my name from **'DIMPUKEEKER K. (DIMPU KEEKER)'** to **'DIMPU AJAY'.** Vide Affidavit dated 01.01.2021. Sworn before Advocate and Notary VARIJA.C.J, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SMRITI** daughter of **MWO RAM DAS SINGH**, resident of SMQ-597/3,7th Camp, Air Force Station, Jalahalli East, Bangalore-560014, have changed my name from **SMRITI** to **SMRITI YADAV,** vide affidavit dated 30-12-2020 Before Advocate and Notary **D SARALA KUMARI**, Reg No. 10192 Bangalore Karnataka.

**NAME OF CHANGE**
**I Sunil Kumar Jain s/o Chhaganlal V Jain aged 49 years residing at no.564 prem kutir,10 th A main road 5 th block Jayanagar Bangalore -41.my original father Moolchand V Jain died in 2008. & I was adopted by Chhaganlal V jain in 1987 .Now in all my documents I entered Chhaganlal V Jain as my father.Hence I sworn before notary R J Solanki Jayanagar Bangalore vide affidavit dated 01-01-2021**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **Bhavatarini S,** Daughter of Air Commodore Satyamurthy Vembu VM, Resident of A-602, Plot No 106, Marg Pushpadruma, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Kalavakkam, Vembedu, Tiruporur, Tamil Nadu-603110, have changed my name from **Bhavatarini S** to **Bhavatarini Satyamurthy,** vide Affidavit dated 02-01-2021, before Notary Peruvazhuthi at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, (OLD NAME) DHARANI MANJU H.V** Residing at No. 92/10, 12th C Main, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangaluru - 560 010 have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) DHARANI PATIL** vide affidavit dated 11.12.2020 sworn before notary Shreeeshil. B. Gobbani, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **Vikram S Athreya,** Son of Air Commodore Satyamurthy Vembu VM, Resident of A-602, Plot No. 106, Marg Pushpadruma, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Kalavakkam, Vembedu, Tiruporur, Tamil Nadu-603110, have changed my name from **Vikram S Athreya** to **Vikram Satyamurthy Athreya,** vide Affidavit dated 02-01-2021, before Notary Peruvazhuthi at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
We **Amit Singh** & **Mrs. Priya Singh** residing at Shilpitha Sunflower, Tower Spring, Flat D-608, Borewell Road, Nallurahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore-560 066. Hereby declare that, we have changed our minor daughter's name from **"SHANNAYAA SIINGH"** to **"SHAUNAYA SIINGH"** vide affidavit dated 02.01.2021 sworn before Advocate and Notary A. M. Rajasekar, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **Panneer Selvam Meganathan** S/o Late Meganathan D aged about 38 years, residing at 2nd Main, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru 560020 have changed, my name as **PRABHU YADAV M.** vide affidavit dated 02/01/2021 sworn to before Advocate & Notary **S. Jayanna.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**
**I, Army No: 14840893Y,** Rank: SEP, Trade: DVRMT, Name: M VENKATESULU, Permanent Address residing at Ramula Gudi Veedhi, Yadamari, Yadamari, Yadamari, Yadamari, Chittoor - 517422, Andhra Pradesh. I state that in my service record my mother's name is wrongly mentioned as **LOKAMBA** instead of her correct name is **M LOKAMBA** vide affidavit dated 02.01.2021 before notary K V MANI, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **KUMARI AMBA GUPTA** residing at no.320, 24th Cross Jayanagara 6th Block Bengaluru, Karnataka-560011 have changed my name to **AMBA GUPTA,** vide affidavit dated 30 Dec 2020, sworn before notary M.K. DEVAKI, Bangalore.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**
**I, Army No: 14840893Y,** Rank: SEP, Trade: DVRMT, Name: M VENKATESULU, Permanent Address residing at Ramula Gudi Veedhi, Yadamari, Yadamari, Yadamari, Yadamari, Chittoor - 517422, Andhra Pradesh. I state that in my service record my WIFE's name is wrongly mentioned as **T REVATHI** instead of her correct name is **M V REVATHI** vide affidavit dated 02.01.2021 before notary K V MANI, Bangalore.

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**$580.84 bn** was India's forex reserve as of December 25, according to RBI data. This was a decrease of $290 million over the previous week

# Exports dip marginally in Dec, trade deficit widens

While exports fell less than 1 per cent, imports grew about 7 per cent

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

**$26.89 bn**

December exports were lower due to reduction in trade of key items

**25.78%**

The deficit widened after imports climbed to $42.6 billion

INDIA'S exports contracted marginally by 0.8 per cent in December to $26.89 billion on account of reduction in trade of major products including petroleum products, leather and leather manufactures, cashew and marine products. On the other hand, imports grew by 7.6 per cent to $42.6 billion, showed data released by the commerce ministry.

"India is a net importer in December, with a trade deficit of $15.71 billion as compared to a trade deficit of $12.49 billion, widened by 25.78 per cent," the ministry said on Saturday. Last year, in December imports stood at $39.5 billion while exports stood at $27.11 billion.

In April-December 2020-21, the country's merchandise exports contracted by 15.8 per cent to $200.55 billion over last year. Imports during the nine months of the current fiscal fell by 29.08 per cent to $258.29 billion as against $364.18 billion in the corresponding year.

Sectors that registered negative growth include petroleum products (-40.47 per cent), oil seeds (-31.8 per cent), leather and leather manufactures (-17.74 per cent), coffee (-16.39 per cent), ready-made garments of all textiles (-15.07 per cent), man-made yarn/fabrics/made-ups (-14.61 per cent), marine products (-14.27 per cent), cashew (-12.04 per cent), plastic and linoleum (-7.43 per cent), and tobacco (-4.95 per cent).

Major commodities imported with positive growth include pulses (245.15 per cent), gold (81.82 per cent), vegetable oil (43.50 per cent), electronic goods (20.90 per cent), machine tools (13.46 per cent), pearls, precious and semi-precious stones (7.81 per cent), and fertilisers (1.42 per cent).

Exporters say that operationalization of the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme effective from January 1, 2021 will further remove uncertainty. "The new RoDTEP would provide complete rebating of Indian exports by refunding the taxes including embedded taxes, not rebated through any other mechanism. However notification of the rates is the need of the hour," said Sharad Kumar Saraf, President, FIEO.

He added that the marginal exports plunge seen in December is a sign of revival as order booking positions have continuously improved besides more new orders in the offing. "Going ahead, we expect our inventories to be liquidated, adding further to the overall demand," Saraf added.

To jack-up exports, FIEO also urged the government to address some of the key issues including adequate availability of containers, softening of freight charges, release of the required MEIS benefits and clarity on SEIS benefits, and long pending demand for the creation of an Export Development Fund for marketing of Brand India products.

GURBIR SINGH

NEWSCOPE

# THE JOB CONUNDRUM AND RISING HUMAN STRESS

ALL the indicators point to a coming year full of challenges for jobs. Worse, it appears some employers, using the Covid-19 pandemic, are doing as they please in firing staff and cutting salaries under the guise of 'rationalization'.

There was a small improvement in labour enrollment and jobs in September but it was short-lived. In October this year, the unemployment rate rose to 6.9 per cent, the highest recorded in the last two years. Employment further declined in November. According to Mahesh Vyas, CEO & MD of the Centre of Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), "in October, the count of the employed had fallen by 0.1 per cent. In November, the fall was larger at 0.9 per cent. The October fall was 0.6 million. In November this was much larger at 3.5 million."

Among the worst hits are salaried jobs. "An estimated 21 million salaried employees have lost their jobs by the end of August. There were 86 million salaried jobs in India during 2019-20. In August 2020, their count was down to 65 million. The deficit of 21 million jobs is the biggest among all types of employment," says CMIE's September report.

### Poor consumer sentiment

A mid-year survey, last year by LinkedIn, showed 1 in 3 Indian professionals have decreased personal income. Called the Workforce Confidence Index, it said the number of self-employed professionals who reported a decrease in income is much higher - 62 per cent.We thus see the fall in employment has been accompanied by a parallel reduction in household incomes, creating a huge depression in consumer sentiment. CMIE's Consumer Pyramids Household Survey shows this translated into a discernible fall in sales in November of consumer durables and two-wheelers pushing down the Index of Consumer Sentiment from 52.5 in October to 51.8 in November.

Poor consumer sentiment has severe long-term repercussions. Cranking up the economy is dependent on producing goods and services that cater to demand; but, if incomes decline and consumer sentiment is cautious about spending, growth and jobs take a hit. In this scenario, companies and businesses have scaled down, shuttered departments and laid off workers. Many have used the opportunity of 'rationalize' operations, a euphemism for firing staff or cutting salaries, which would otherwise have been difficult in normal times. Some of these cutbacks are illegal, but the government labour machinery and courts of appeal are on a prolonged hiatus.

### A hire-and-fire regime

The scale of the problem was witnessed recently in mid-December when violent protests broke out in the Wistron factory in Narasapura area, near Bengaluru. Contracted to manufacture iPhones, the facility was vandalized by angry workers who said they had not been paid their salaries. Local officials told media persons that since the pandemic, salaries ranging from ₹15,000 to ₹21,000 for technical and other casual staff had been cut by ₹7,000 to Rs 9,000 brewing discontent. Hundreds were arrested and charged with rioting. The factory is currently shut.

An Apple statement acknowledged that the vendor Wistron had been violating labour norms. "Our preliminary findings indicate violations of our Supplier Code of Conduct by failing to implement proper working hour management processes. This led to payment delays for some workers in October and November," the statement said, adding, "We have placed Wistron on probation and they will not receive any new business from Apple before they complete corrective actions."

A cursory survey shows the scale of retrenchments and closures. IT giant Cognizant in July announced it was slashing 7,000 jobs, BSNL retrenched some 20,000 casual workers, Tata Technologies put 400 employees on the bench. Others that fired or laid off employees included Oyo, Lendingkart, JCB, and SpiceJet. The list goes on.

In this situation, the central and state government labour machinery, set up under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, is supposed to intervene through 'conciliation' proceedings to stave off job losses and closures.

When these fail, the labour department 'refers' the dispute to an Industrial or Labour Court for adjudication. On the ground, though, labour departments have abdicated their responsibilities, leaving the field open to indiscriminate firings.

It is strange in the midst of the pandemic, the ruling party rammed through key labour reform bills in September without even a pretense of discussion. These amended laws will remove impediments for winding up of companies and allow retrenchment of staff without government permission in firms with up to 300 workers. Though laws never stopped retrenchments and rationalisation of manning levels, the legal deterrent had kept a hire-and-fire regime at bay. No more!

Much will depend on how the economy performs in the months to come. We should take note that Prime Minister Modi on 14 April, at the start of the lockdowns, had appealed to industry leaders "to be compassionate and not fire people in these troubling times". But in practice the government seems to be doing very little to save jobs and prevent shut-downs.

# Huge revenue shortfall place question marks on 2021 Budget funding

JAYANTA ROY CHOWDHURY @ New Delhi

NORTH Bloc's mandarins are in a tizzy in trying to figure out how to raise revenues for the largest ever spending budget planned by the Narendra Modi-led central government.

While the political leadership has let it be known that the spending budget, especially on infrastructure and social welfare has to be ramped up to help the Indian economy bounce back, the winning formulae for raising resources for this budget expected to be about 8 per cent over last year's is yet to be worked out.

Till November-end this year, the government managed to raise just 40 per cent of its projected revenue receipts. As far as non-tax revenues are concerned, it managed to raise just 32 per cent of its projections for 2020-21.

> **The shortfall will be massive this year— some ₹3-4 lakh crore. Next year, we can hope at best to equal the (revenue) targets set for this year given our rate of recovery**
>
> Officials

"The shortfall will be massive this year— some ₹3-4 lakh crore ... next year we can hope at best to equal the targets set for this year given our recovery rate," said officials. This current year's revenue target was ₹20.20 lakh crore.

However, the disinvestment target of ₹2.1 lakh crore which looks nowhere being fulfilled, officials say, will alone cause an estimated hole of about ₹1.5 lakh crore in the total revenue receipts. The government will still be looking at an aggressive disinvestment programme next year, besides increases in customs duties to raise more revenues in the coming year. But officials are unsure how that will play out. Some of the increase in custom duties could have to be sacrificed as India negotiates trade pacts with the US and European Union, its largest trading partners.

"The maths have been done for revenue collections, but there are doubts about meeting targets ... while in other years, lower than expected revenues simply meant curbing expenses towards the end of the year. This year we have to ensure spending or risk retarding the growth bounce back," according to officials.

The size of the economy in 2019-20 was about ₹145.66 lakh crore at 2011-12 prices. India Ratings estimates India's GDP will contract by 7.8 per cent this year and be about ₹134.33 lakh crore.

Even if it grows by 9.6 per cent as is being forecast, the economy will grow to just ₹147.17 lakh crore in 2021- 22.

"Revenues, especially tax revenues are a fraction of the total economy and depend on how well the economy is doing. We cannot hope to raise large resources during a period when the economy is in recovery mode," said officials.

EXPRESS READ

### PFC raises borrowing limit to `1.18 lakh cr

New Delhi: State-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has raised its borrowing limit to ₹1.18 lakh crore for the ongoing financial year to accommodate the moratorium granted to borrowers as per the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India. The decision was taken by the company's board, PFC said in a statement on Saturday. It plans to raise ₹83,000 crore from long-term borrowing, ₹15,000 crore from foreign currency, ₹5,000 crore from short-term borrowing and ₹15,000 crore from commercial papers.

# Future of workplace set to be hybrid as employers gauge productivity

BISMAH MALIK @ Bengaluru

THE pandemic year has made it mandatory for employees to meet colleagues over zoom calls and a few companies have also given workers the permission to continue working remotely until at least March 2021. As companies try to decide the best way forward for their employees, experts say the new work culture would be 'hybrid' where employees can choose to work either from offices or homes.

According to a recent survey by Dell Technologies, 91 per cent of the employees in India feel that they are prepared for long-term remote work. However, employees also shared concerns about not having access to right technologies and the blurring of boundaries between work and personal lives in a remote work arrangement. Indrajit Belgundi, Senior Director and General Manager, Client Solutions Group, Dell Technologies, said among the Asia Pacific Japan region, India that has had an experience with remote work and is displaying readiness for long term remote and digital teams.

"For CIOs and their teams who displayed agility and speed in achieving or embarking upon digital transformation for their business earlier this year, it has become clear that the onus is on the organisation to support employees at every stage. This will be essential to establishing a productive and connected digital workforce," he added.

In India, the government has been advocating for Work From Home (WFH) for the IT/ ITes sector by modifying the Other Service Providers (OSP) norms. India's largest IT services firm TCS said that it is planning to deploy a 25-25 model, aiming to have only 25 per cent of its four lakh workforce to work from office by 2025. Companies like Infosys, Wipro and HCL Tech have also said there will be no swift changes in the current WFH model and that the transition to work from offices will be a gradual affair. Similarly, Infosys may look at an incremental increase of workforce in office in 2021, said its Chief Operating Officer Pravin Rao.

Other sectors will also need to develop a technology-enabled workplace environment for a sustainable hybrid model. Businesses will hone in on digital solutions that support collaboration and enhance productivity, said Xerox India MD Leo Joseph.

# Business & Beyond

### Pradhan unveils missed call facility for LPG booking

Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched a unique missed call facility for booking LPG refills and registration of new connections. Facility for booking LPG refill by giving a missed call on 8454955555 has been rolled out pan-India and for registering a new LPG connection has been rolled out in Bhubaneswar, informed the Minister. The minister also rolled out the second phase of IndianOil's premium 100 octane petrol, XP100 in seven more cities including Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Kochi, Indore and Bhubaneswar.

### Akshaya recognised as trusted realty brand

Real estate developer Akshaya Pvt Ltd has been recognised as one of the most trusted real estate brands in India by TRA's Brand Trust Report 2020.This recognition gives the company the distinction of being the only realty brand from Tamil Nadu to make it to this elite list. The South India-based developer, regarded highly for iquality and innovation, had come up with many offerings this year including Disney inspired homes, IKEA-furnished residences, WBHK homes with exclusive work room and Twin D - India's first hygiene-happy homes - with an exclusive focus on health and well-being of residents.

### SharonPly honours good samaritans

SharonPly has honoured three frontline workers, who gave away their lives while fighting Covid-19, during the second edition of its annual award ceremony. A Simon Hercules, Joan Mary Priscilla and Balamurali — the first doctor, first nurse and the first police personnel, respectively, who died of Covid-19 in Tamil Nadu were honoured by SharonPly MD Vishnu Khemani.

### Jain Housing raises `175 cr from Nippon, Apollo Global

Chennai-based real estate major Jain Housing has received funding from two foreign financial institutions — Nippon Life Asset Management Ltd of Japan and Apollo Global Management of US — for about ₹175 crore to reduce debt. In the last three decades, the company has delivered 185 projects in southern states. Currently, Jain Housing has 20 projects under construction at Chennai, Hyderabad, Coimbatore, Kochi, Bengaluru and Tirupur with an estimated value of ₹4,000 crore. "We are confident that demand will pick up this year," said its joint MD Sreyansh Mehta.

WHEELS ROLL

# *Automakers gearing up to flood markets with SUV models*

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

OVER half a dozen new passenger vehicle launches are confirmed to take place in January. While the top two carmakers— Maruti Suzuki India and Hyundai Motor are giving the launch buzz a miss, rivals Tata Motors, MG Motor, Jeep and Toyota are getting ready to bring their newest vehicles in the fast-growing Sport utility vehicle (SUV) segment.

Homegrown auto major Tata Motors is expected to unveil its seven seater SUV- the Gravitas on the 72nd Republic Day on January 26. The Gravitas is essentially a three-row version of its popular SUV Harrier, and it is expected to be available in 6- and 7-seater configurations. Once launched, the new SUV will compete against the likes of MG Hector Plus and Mahindra XUV 500. Tata Motors will also launch the turbocharged petrol variant of Altroz on January 13. The new Altroz is expected to get a de-tuned version of the 1.2-litre turbo-petrol that powers the Nexon SUV.

Similarly, MG Motor is expected to bring the 7-seater version of the Hector Plus SUV this month. The big change in the SUV launched last year was the replacement of second-row captain seats by a bench seat that could seat three persons at once. However, the big launch from MG will be the facelift of Hector. The SAIC-owned British brand entered the Indian market with Hector SUV. Since its launch in 2019, Hector has remained in good demand even as it faces tough competition from Hyundai Creta, Jeep Compass, Kia Seltos and Tata Harrier. MG recently informed that Hector has received record bookings of 5,000 units in December 2020. The updated Hector will come with a redesigned grille having horizontal slats and may even sport 18-inch alloy wheels in dual tone finish.

The two other big launches are Toyota Fortuner facelift and new Jeep Compass. Toyota will launch the new Fortuner on January 6 with a host of design updates, giving it a more aggressive and sporty look. The SUV will also witness significant feature upgrades along with a more powerful engine. The Fortuner will receive a new Legender variant featuring sportier design bits inside and out. Jeep India will be launching the 2021 Compass on January 7. The new Compass gets several exterior and interior updates, and has already made its international debut.

## Lakshya pulls out of Thai tour

Shuttler Lakshya Sen has pulled out of the upcoming Thailand tournaments that is scheduled to be held this month due to an injury. "He had a slight strain at the back. The doctor has advised him rest for two weeks," an official from Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA), where Lakshya does his homework, revealed. The decision to pull out was made on Saturday.

Sourav Ganguly was rushed to a hospital in Kolkata following chest pain | AFP

# Ganguly undergoes angioplasty, in stable condition

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kolkata

BCCI president and former India skipper Sourav Ganguly suffered a mild heart attack on Saturday and had to be admitted to a private hospital where doctors found multiple blockages in his coronary arteries. Ganguly underwent angioplasty and a stent was placed in one of the blocked arteries. Doctors treating him said his condition is stable.

"Ganguly is suffering from triple vessel disease — three blockages in coronary arteries. We placed a stent in one of the arteries. On Monday, we will discuss what is to be done to deal with the two more arteries with blockages," said Saroj Mondal, the head of the five-member team formed for Ganguly's treatment.

Ganguly was rushed to the hospital on Saturday afternoon following a complaint of chest pain. His wife Dona contacted BCCI president's doctor who advised immediate hospitalisation. "After he came here, we conducted basic tests like ECG and the results showed abnormalities. An angiography revealed three blockages in Ganguly's coronary arteries," said Mondal.

Primary angioplasty, also called percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), is a procedure, which treats blockages within the coronary arteries and improves blood flow to the heart.

The 48-year-old Ganguly has a family history of Ischemic Heart Disease, a condition of recurring chest pain or discomfort that occurs when a part of the heart does not receive enough blood. This condition occurs most often during exertion or excitement when the heart requires greater blood flow.

**Just got to know about your ailment Sourav. Hope each passing day brings you closer to a full and speedy recovery! Get well soon.**

Sachin Tendulkar

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee visited the hospital and said the former India captain is doing fine. "He is fine now... He enquired about my health, too. I thank the hospital authority and the doctors," Banerjee told reporters outside the hospital.

Earlier in the day, Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and his wife went to the hospital to enquire about the health of Ganguly. "I am relieved to see 'Dada' (Ganguly) in his usual cheerful mood. I pray for his speedy recovery," Dhankhar said.

# HEADACHE AFTER DINNER

Different rules in states posing a challenge, team management stands behind players

VENKATA KRISHNA B @ Chennai

THE episode surrounding the isolation of five India players – Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant, Shubman Gill, Prithvi Shaw and Navdeep Saini – has turned into an unwanted distraction for the visiting team. Saturday was just another day as all players trained at the Melbourne Cricket Ground together. It was not until they were in the hotel did the team get to know of the isolation of the five players.

Even as the BCCI's medical team is reviewing the footage, the Indian team management felt that there was no breach of Covid protocols. Ever since landing in Australia, they have been adjusting to different protocols as each state has its own rules and regulations, with new guidelines being issued every day. So far there have been no breaches as the BCCI's medical team was giving them constant updates on do's and dont's.

It is understood that it is getting more complicated as protocols are changing too frequently as cases rise in certain areas. Once the two teams reach Sydney on Monday, there will be a new set of protocols to be followed. Indications are that unlike Melbourne, where they are allowed to dine outdoors, in Sydney and Brisbane this will not be possible under local guidelines.

Video grab of the five players dining at an indoor restaurant in Melbourne. The clip was posted by a fan | TWITTER

On Friday, an Indian fan posted a video of the players dining at an indoor restaurant on his Twitter handle. As per CA's Covid-19 protocol, players are allowed to dine outside their hotel but only outdoors. The fan even claimed that he had paid the players' restaurant bill.

By Saturday, however, CA looked at it with seriousness and got in touch with the BCCI. While the fan even claimed that Pant hugged him, he went on to deny it later. The team has already been told to avoid dining indoors at restaurants.

"The BCCI and CA are investigating the matter and seeking to determine whether the outing constitutes a breach of biosecurity protocols. In the interim, on the advice of the Australian and Indian medical teams, the aforementioned players have been placed in isolation as a precaution. This will include separating the group of players from the broader Indian and Australian squads when travelling and at the training venue," the CA said in a statement on Saturday.

This isn't the first time CA has taken such a stance. Earlier, during the Big Bash League it did the same with Chris Lynn and Dan Lawrence (Brisbane Heat) for a similar breach of protocol. From the time India players headed to the UAE in the third week of August, they have been living in a bio-secure bubble. It is only after reaching Australia that they have been allowed to even step out of their hotel thanks to the low number of cases there.

### The defaulters

If the players are stood down for the third Test, it won't be the first time. Here's a look at a few players and support staff who have broken it...

**Jofra Archer**

In cricket's first event back, the fast-bowler took an unsanctioned detour to his flat in Hove after the opening Test against West Indies. After the incident, he was banned by the ECB for a Test.

**Greenwood/Foden**

While in England duty in September, they fell foul of Covid protocols in Iceland. The FA sent both of them home.

**Heiko Herrlich**

The Augsburg coach stepped out of his hotel to buy a toothbrush. This meant he was forced to miss the team's Bundesliga restart in May.

# Churchill aim high ahead of I-League test

AYANTAN CHOWDHURY @ New Delhi

ONE of the most successful clubs of the I-League era, Churchill Brothers have a golden opportunity to reach those dizzying heights this season now that East Bengal and Mohun Bagan are not in the fray. However, their new coach Santiago Varela is refusing to get carried away.

The Goan club are the second most successful club in the competition's history having won the title on two occasions, the last of which came in the 2012-13 season. Varela, who coached Gokulam Kerala last season, feels all the other teams are dangerous and will start on equal footing.

"You cannot say that just because East Bengal and Mohun Bagan are not there, we can get the title. We have to respect all the teams. Real Kashmir, Gokulam Kerala and even debutants Sudeva Delhi FC will all pose a different sort of challenge. This year there are lot of external factors at play as well," the Argentine said during a virtual meet. Full story: newindianexpress.com

# Indian lifters set for overseas meet

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

AFTER months of inactivity, Indian weightlifters will finally be able to participate in an international event in April. International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has confirmed dates and venue for the 2020 Asian Championships. The meet will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. In their bid to qualify for the Olympics, weightlifters have to participate in at least six meets throughout the overall period starting November 1, 2018 and Tashkent event will be sixth for Indian lifters Mirabai Chanu and Jeremy Lalrinnunga.

Eyeing participation in the Asian Championships, the weightlifters, who are camping in Mumbai, will shift their base to NIS Patiala. "We will end the camp here in Mumbai on February 2 and shift to NIS Patiala immediately. This will be the first international event for our lifters since the 2019 World Championships held in Thailand in September 2019," Vijay Sharma, national weightlifting coach, said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

### United title challenge a year in the making: Ole

LONDON: Ole Gunnar Solskjaer hailed Manchester United's progress over the past year after a 2-1 win over Aston Villa took them level on points with Liverpool at the top of the Premier League. A year ago to the day, United lost 2-0 at Arsenal to fall 24 points behind the English champions, having played two games more. The Red Devils have now taken 26 from a possible 30 points to mount an unexpected title challenge."Of course we are happy with what we are doing. We have shown we have improved a lot in a year," said Solskjaer. "We are getting fitter and fitter and stronger and stronger." On Saturday, South Korea forward Son Heung-min scored his 100th Tottenham goal in a 3-0 win over Leeds that hauled his team back into the title race.

Manchester United's Bruno Fernandes converts a penalty against Aston Villa during their EPL clash | AFP

### Mumbai City go top after win over Kerala

CHENNAI: Mumbai City FC underlined once again why they are the front-runners for the ISL title this season with a 2-0 win over Kerala Blasters at the GMC Stadium in Bambolim on Saturday. Early goals from Adam le Fondre (3') and Hugo Boumous (11') helped them go top.

### Arjun Tendulkar gets maiden Mumbai call-up

MUMBAI: Young left-arm pacer Arjun Tendulkar, who is the son of the legendary Sachin Tendulkar, was on Saturday picked in Mumbai's senior team for the first time, featuring in an extended 22-member squad for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (beginning January 10).

MAKING RIGHT MOVES

# 'Great to work with Kramnik & Gelfand'

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

FORMER world champion Vladimir Kramnik in a chat with this daily had said that India is the chess capital of the world. His compliment was due to the fact that children here had huge passion for the game.True to the legend's words, Goa's 14-year-old, Leon Mendonca, became India's 67th Grandmaster by winning the third and final norm at a tournament in Italy. Mendonca, who has been coached by Kramnik, achieved the feat at 14 years, 9 months and 17 days and is the second GM from Goa. Excerpts:

**QUICK HITS**

**Favourite chess players:** Magnus Carlsen, Kramnik, Viswanathan Anand

**Chess books:** Positional discipline by Gelfand

**Hobby:** Violin, a form of relaxation

**Parents' role:** Very key for my growth in chess

Leon Mendonca

**On what it feels to be a GM**
Awesome. A lot of hard work has gone into it. I just kept playing good chess and was finally rewarded with the (third) norm and title at the Vergani Cup in Italy.

**On how did you cope with being stranded in Hungary and winning the Kumania Championship there**
I remained focused on my targets while my father took care of the rest. Since (Kumania) it was a closed IM invitational event, there was no GM norm pressure and I could play my normal chess. Besides the organiser, Endre Cziki, was extremely hospitable.

**On how was it to win the First Saturday GM November meet?**
Well I always had the strength and after so many near misses, it was just a matter of time that I won and glad that I did it.

**On the experience of working with Kramnik and Borus Gelfand and meeting Judit Polgar**
Simply awesome experience as I got to learn how world champions think. And it was extremely inspiring and motivating when I met Polgar.

**On your personal trainer**
GM Vishnu Prasanna from Chennai. The chemistry which we share is unique. Vishnu sir has been more than just a coach to me. His approach towards the game and coaching style has brought out the best in me and I will be forever grateful to him.

**On goals for 2021**
Keep working hard and playing high quality chess.

Govt. of Karnataka
**Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru**
(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)
O/o The Assistant Executive Engineer,
Morarji Desai Residential School, Jagat, Circle, Kalaburgi District.

No. KREIS/AEE/Tender-33/2020-21 Date: 01-01-2021

**TENDER NOTIFICATION** (Through e-Tendering Only)

The tenders have been invited for (1) Construction of Smt. Indira Gandhi Residential School Complex at **Mahangav, Kalaburgi Taluk, Kalaburgi District,** Construction of Smt. Indira Gandhi Residential School Complex at **Balluru - J, Aurad Taluk, Bidar District,** Construction of Kittur Rani Chennamma Residential Complex at **Janawada, Bidar Taluk, Bidar District (Package Tender Indent No. 2790.) (2) Construction of Samagra Haralayya Samudaya Bhavan, Basavakalyana Town, Bidar District (Tender Indent No. 2783)** through e-Portal vide website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on **02.01.2021.** The last date for receipt of tender is **02.02.2021.** The details may be viewed at above website.

Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer
KREIS

DIPR/DDU/YC/2265/2020-21

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Government of Karnataka
**Office of the Director of Printing, Stationery Publications**
R.V. College Post, 8th Mile, Mysore Road,
Bengaluru - 560 059, Phone: 080-28484515/080-28484518

Notification No.DPS41PUR(C)2020-21/NISTA Date: 01-01-2021

**BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(through e-procurement)

Online Tenders are invited for Transportation of Nista Printed Books to DIET Offices of Karnataka. Estimated total value of the Tender is about Rs. 6.50 lakhs. Pre-bid Meeting shall be on Date: 08-01-2021, 11.30 AM & Last date for Submission of Tender is 15-01-2021, 17.30 hrs. For details please visit Website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For any further clarifications the above office may be contacted.

Sd/-
Director

DIPR/DDU/2267/AKAR/2020-21

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**Karnataka Bank Ltd.**
Your Family Bank across India

Asset Recovery Management Branch, No.39/2, 2nd Floor, ASVNV Bhavan, Opp.FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009
Phone: 080-22955928(Gen)/929(CM)
E-Mail: blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website: www.karnatakabank.com
CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor, the Constructive Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Karnataka Bank Ltd,** the Secured Creditor on **17.10.2020**, will be sold on "As is Where is" "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on **10.02.2021**, for recovery of **Rs.14,64,025.10 [Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Twenty Five and Ten Paise Only] under Term Loan A/c No.0557001600215601** along with future interest from **10.12.2020,** plus costs due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd – Bengaluru Malleshwaram Branch**, the Secured creditor from – **(1) Mr Mani Bhushan Singh** s/o Mr. J. P. Singh, **(2) Mrs. Sangeetha** w/o Mr Mani Bhushan Singh, **Both 1 & 2 are addressed at:** No.441, 11th Cross, 3rd Block, HMT Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru – 560097 being the borrower/guarantor/mortgagor.

**Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the property may not be sold: Rs.25,20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Twenty Thousand Only)**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

| Description of Property | Reserve Price | Earnest Money Deposit | Date & Time of Auction |
|---|---|---|---|
| All that part and parcel of Residential Site bearing Site no. 41 measuring 1200 sq.ft., Khata No. 243, E-Khata New No. 150200200900700283, comprised in Sy. No. 29, situated at Shriram Bhairavi Layout, Meesaganahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluka, Bengaluru – 562157 belonging to **Mr Mani Bhushan Singh, Boundaries of Property (As per Deed/Actual): East by:** Plot no. 7/Vacant Site no. 7, **West by:** 30 feet road/30 feet road, **North by:** Plot no. 42/Vacant site no. 42, **South by:** 50 feet road/50 feet road. | Rs. 25,20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Twenty Thousand Only) | Rs. 2,52,000.00 (Rupees Two Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Only) | 10.02.2021 from 12.00 P.M to 12.20 P.M |

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).

**This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule (8) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors)**

**For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website ie.,www.karnatakabank.com under the head "Mortgaged Assets for Sale".**

The E-auction will be conducted through portal **https://bankauctions.in/** on **10.02.2021 from 12.00 P.M. to 12.20 P.M.** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at **https://bankauctions.in/** and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on 09.02.2021) from M/s 4 Closure, Mr.Sreekanth B. (Asst.Manager), No.22, 5th Cross, Gurumahal Extension, Opp: Indian Hotel, K.G.Halli, Jalahalli (West), Bengaluru-560010 Mobile No: 9515160061, E-mail: sreekanth@bankauctions.in

Date : 01.01.2021
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer
For Karnataka Bank Ltd.,

**Karnataka Bank Ltd.**
Your Family Bank across India

Asset Recovery Management Branch, No.39/2, 2nd Floor, ASVNV Bhavan, Opp.FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009
Phone: 080-22955928(Gen)/929(CM)
E-Mail: blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website: www.karnatakabank.com
CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor, the **Constructive Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Karnataka Bank Ltd,** the Secured Creditor on **03.06.2020**, will be sold on **"As is Where is" "As is What is" and "Whatever there is"** on **10.02.2021**, for recovery of **Rs.24,51,743.00 [Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Three Only] under PS Term Loan A/c No. 5597001800006801** along with future interest from **04.12.2020,** plus costs due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd – Naganathapura Branch, Bengaluru,** the Secured creditor from – **(1) Mrs. Anupama,** W/o Mr. Jayaprakash G, **(2) Mr. Jayaprakash G,** S/o Mr. Ganagputhaiah, **Both 1 & 2 are addressed at:** No. 1275, Yashaswini Nilaya, 1st Cross, Kalyana Nagar, T. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru-560057 **Other Address:** Site No. 12, MTS Colony (Near Max Computers), facing Cross Road connecting Masjid Road, T Dasarahalli, Yeshwanthapura, Bengaluru 560057, being the borrower/guarantor/mortgagor.

**Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the property may not be sold: Rs.45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Only)**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

| Description of Property | Reserve Price | Earnest Money Deposit | Date & Time of Auction |
|---|---|---|---|
| All that piece and parcel of property measuring 960 sq.ft. (East West – 24'0" North South – 40'0") bearing Site no. 12, Old Khata no. 2/12, New Khata No. 196, situated at T Dasarahalli, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluku, Bengaluru with building (GF & FF) constructed thereon measuring 1041.24 sq.ft. (actual constructed area is 1600 sq.ft.) belonging to **Mrs Anupama Boundaries of Property (As per Deed/Actual): East by:** Rangiah Naidu Property/4 floors residential building **West by :** Site no 11/3 floor residential building, **North by :** Road/Road, **South by:** Site no 5/Vacant site & then residential building | Rs. 45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Only) | Rs. 4,50,000.00 (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Thousand Only) | 10.02.2021 from 11.00 to 11.20 A.M. |

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).

**This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule (8) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors)**

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The E-auction will be conducted through portal **https://bankauctions.in/** on **10.02.2021 from 11.00 A.M. to 11.20 A.M.** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at **https://bankauctions.in/** and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on 09.02.2021) from M/s 4 Closure, Mr.Sreekanth B. (Asst.Manager), No.22, 5th Cross, Gurumahal Extension, Opp: Indian Hotel, K.G.Halli, Jalahalli (West), Bengaluru-560010 Mobile No: 9515160061, E-mail: sreekanth@bankauctions.in

Date : 01.01.2021
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer
For Karnataka Bank Ltd.,

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A broad ban on single-use containers, forks, straws and other ubiquitous items takes effect in Mexico City after more than a year of preparation. On Friday, the environmental secretary said that "from today on Mexico City without single-use plastics."

EXFILE • ENVIRONMENT

# GLOBAL THREAT OF SINKING LAND

The sinking of the ground's surface or 'subsidence' will threaten nearly a fifth of the world's population come the year 2040, a study has warned. Most of the populations at greater risk are in Asia. A look at it

**Potential global subsidence**

The color scheme indicates the probability intervals classified from very low (VL) to very high (VH). The white hatched polygons indicate countries where grounder data is unavailable, and the potential subsidence

### THE STUDY

Gerardo Herrera-García of the Geological and Mining Institute of Spain and colleagues reviewed existing literature to determine that groundwater depletion has led to land subsidence in **200 different locations — spread across 34 countries**

The team then developed a model to predict the risk of subsidence across the globe — incorporating such factors as regional geology, climate, susceptibility to flooding or drought and human activities that cause groundwater depletion

### DISCOVERY

- Alongside warning that a fifth of the world's population could be at risk from subsidence within the next 20 years, the team also found that the majority of these 635 million individuals are located in Asia
- When they validated their model against independent datasets, they found that it could distinguish between areas at risk and not at risk of subsidence with 94 per cent accuracy
- But the team conceded, model does not presently take account for existing measures designed to combat subsidence — meaning that it may be overestimating the risk in the areas where such schemes are operating

### ASIAN CONCERN

Land subsidence hits hardest in regions with a high population density — like India — greater demand for groundwater extraction and areas undergoing water stress

### WHAT IS SUBSIDENCE

Subsidence is usually caused by the removal of local groundwater — and can be triggered by dry spells, the roots of trees and shrubs and human activities

### ACT NOW

An international team of researchers led from Spain warn that increasing droughts in the future will see subsidence occur more often — and, as the global population grows, with greater impact on civilisation.

### WHAT ARE SINKHOLES?

A sinkhole is a hole in the ground created by erosion and the drainage of water. They can range in size from a few feet in diameter to the size capable of swallowing entire buildings. They are a natural phenomenon but the process is often amplified by human processes and interference

**19%**

By 2024, 19 per cent of the world's population will be impacted by subsidence, the sinking of the ground's surface

# UK'S NEW VACCINE STRATEGY STIRS DEBATE

Medicine regulator allows patients to receive different coronavirus jabs for the first and second doses under certain circumstances

HEALTH

LONDON: In a departure from other strategies globally, the United Kingdom's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has come up with a new strategy that would allow patients to be given different coronavirus vaccines for the first and second doses under certain circumstances, a move that highlights a widening rift in public health policy between the country and rest of the West.

"For individuals who started the schedule and who attend for vaccination at a site where the same vaccine is not available, or if the first product received is unknown, it is reasonable to offer one dose of the locally available product to complete the schedule," according to the guidelines.

Health officials said this would only happen on extremely rare occasions, and that the government was not recommending the mixing of vaccines, which require at least two doses given several weeks apart.

This new strategy has prompted a debate among experts, with the British Medical Association (BMA), a body representing UK doctors, criticizing the move to postpone appointments for the very vulnerable patients currently awaiting their second shots. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been in use in the UK since early December, when the country became the first in the world to approve it, but supplies are limited.

**For those who started the schedule and who attend for vaccination where the same vaccine is not available, or if the first product received is unknown, it is reasonable to offer one dose of the locally available product**

MHRA statement

The argument over the vaccination strategy comes as infection rates rise in much of the UK due to the new variant of the coronavirus. Most of England is now under the toughest level of restrictions to try to contain the spread. "This group of very elderly patients is at the highest risk of death if they contract Covid-19, which is why GPs are so concerned for them. It is grossly and patently unfair to tens of thousands of our most at-risk patients to now try to reschedule their appointments," Dr Richard Vautrey, chair of the BMA General Practitioners Committee, said in a statement Thursday.

Meanwhile, Pfizer sais it did not have data to demonstrate that just a single dose of its vaccine would provide protection against the disease after more than 21 days.

"Pfizer and BioNTech's Phase 3 study for the Covid-19 vaccine was designed to evaluate the vaccine's safety and efficacy following a 2-dose schedule, separated by 21 days," Pfizer said in a statement on Thursday. "There are no data to demonstrate that protection after the first dose is sustained after 21 days." Medical officers from the UK said that the second dose is likely to be important for duration of protection, and at an appropriate dose interval may further increase efficacy. "The great majority of the initial protection from clinical disease is after the first dose of vaccine," they said.

# AstraZeneca plans 2 mn doses a week

MEDICINE

LONDON: Amidst growing pressure over sufficient supplies of Covid-19 vaccines in the UK, pharmaceutical companies have hit back at government claims that access to enough jabs was a "limiting factor", insisting there was no issue at their end. While AstraZeneca says it expects 2 million doses of the Oxford University vaccine to be ready each week in just over a fortnight, Pfizer BioNTech said the number of doses it has now sent to the UK is "in the millions".

The Pfizer and Oxford/AstraZeneca jabs are the two vaccines against coronavirus that are approved for rollout in the UK. "The plan is then to build it up fairly rapidly; by the third week of January we should get to 2 million a week," an AstraZeneca source told '*The Times*'. "The deliveries to the UK are on track and progressing according to our agreed schedule," a Pfizer spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, there are growing questions on whether Britain could have had more supplies ready to go, similar to how India has created a massive vaccine stockpile in advance, according to '*The Daily Telegraph*'. Serum Institute of India has a licensing tie-up for the Oxford vaccine. It has emerged that India has already managed to stockpile 50 million doses of the jabs.

"The rate-limiting factor at the moment, as they say, is supply not distribution," UK PM Boris Johnson said earlier this week.

# Reusable rockets in ISRO's decadal plan

SPACE

CHENNAI: Stepping into 2021, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has chalked out its decadal plan which includes development of a heavy lift rocket, reusable satellite launch vehicle, semi-cryogenic engine, and others. In the short term, the space agency has to realise the first developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) operational Geo-Imaging capability, the third moon mission Chandrayaan-3, the first solar mission Aditya-L1, and first Indian Data Relay Satellite.

"The first unmanned flight under the Gaganyaan Programme is another significant milestone to be achieved this year," ISRO chairman K Sivan said. He also said ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) needs to gear up its test facilities to support the qualification of the new propulsion systems and also expand its integration facilities to realise the new semi-cryogenic and LOX/Methane engines.

"In the next decade, emphasis will be on satellite constellation for broadband communication, all electric satellite platform and high performance satellite platforms in all the application areas," Sivan said as regards the decadal plans for the UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC). He said the Space Applications Centre (SAC) will complete its indigenisation efforts for atomic clock and traveling wave tube amplifiers (TWTA).

In this decade, SAC and the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) need to work towards ensuring the collection, processing and on-demand delivery of satellite data services in line with user expectations. As regards the rocket port under the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) scaling up of the launch infrastructure to support human spaceflight as well as new heavy lift vehicles and perhaps support and facilitate the launching of private space transportation systems in the country, Sivan said.

The Semi-Conductor Laboratory SCL will work towards creating a micro-electronics base in India and enhance capabilities in VLSI domain.

**OFF TO A BAD START**

A damaged house at Ask, Gjerdrum county, on Friday, a few days after a landslide in the Norweigan town. Some 500 people were evacuated prior to the New Year as several houses were swept away in the county | AFP

# Steps for receiving safe second dose

HEALTH

NEW DELHI: Following accounts of potential allergies to the Covid-19 vaccines produced by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, scientists have outlined steps on safely receiving the second dose in individuals who develop a reaction to their first dose.

The research, published in *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice,* summarised what is currently known about allergic reactions to vaccines like those developed against Covid-19.

The proposed detailed advice says that individuals with different allergy histories can safely receive their vaccine. The US FDA recommended that mRNA vaccines, based on the genetic material of the virus, be withheld only from individuals with a history of severe allergic reactions to any component of the vaccine. It also advised that patients be observed for 15 minutes post-vaccination by staff, who can manage such reactions.

FACT OF THE MATTER

## Fireworks kill birds in Rome

ENVIRONMENT

Hundreds of birds died after many people set off fireworks in Rome on New Year's Eve, animal rights groups said, calling it a "massacre." Footage of streets near Rome's main train station showed dozens and dozens of birds — mostly starlings — scattered lifeless on the ground. The cause of the deaths was not clear, but the International Organization for the Protection of Animals said it appeared related to a particularly loud display of firecrackers and fireworks in the leafy neighborhood that many birds use to nest. "It can be that they died from fear. They can fly up together and knock against each other, or hit windows," said Loredana Diglio, a spokeswoman.

## Kaziranga sees huge numbers

TOURISM

More than 64,000 tourists have visited the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, famed for the one-horned Indian rhinoceros, since it reopened on October 21, an official said. The park, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, usually remains closed between June and September because of the annual floods and reopens in November. The park's Field Director P Sivakumar said that 64,100 tourists visited since October 21,2020 while the revenue collected during the 70-day period was ₹127.32 lakh. In 2018-19, over 47,10,971 domestic tourists and 25,739 foreigners had visited the state. Only two rhinos poached in the year 2020, he said.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

# *No snake soup for youngest snake catcher in Hong Kong*

WILDLIFE

HONG KONG: Hong Kong is home to a variety of snakes — from the venomous king cobra to larger species such as the Burmese python. Whenever one of these reptiles is spotted slithering into a home or coming alarmingly close to a residential area, Ken Lee is among the snake catchers called to capture the creatures.

But unlike commercial snake catchers of yesteryear, whose catch is often served up as soup in the city's snake shops, Lee doesn't sell the snakes he captures. He is part of a new breed of snake catchers who strive to release the reptiles back into nature.

"There are occasions where people have caught the snakes before I arrived on the scene, but unfortunately some of them were killed or fatally injured," said 31-year-old Lee, who is one of Hong Kong's youngest registered snake catchers. "Some people caught the snakes bravely, but actually it caused harm to wildlife."

Like many other snake catchers in the city, Lee is self-taught. He first started handling snakes at the age of 17, when he worked as an apprentice in a Hong Kong snake shop. His experience spurred him to learn more about biodiversity and biology, and he eventually went on to study that at a university in Taiwan.

When Lee catches snakes, he uses a range of equipment — puncture-proof gloves, sticks, hooks, a torch and bags. At times, he even uses his bare hands.

In early December, he made headlines when he successfully captured a 3-meter-long Burmese python in a village located in a rural part of Hong Kong. The same month, Lee was also called to a high-rise residential building in a rural area to capture a bamboo pit viper — a common, venomous green snake whose bite can cause a nasty swell.

Ken Lee with a Burmese python in Hong Kong that was caught last month | AP

The snakes he catches are sent to the Kadoorie Farm and Botanical Garden, a local nonprofit organization that shelters rescued wild animals. After a health check, most of the creatures are then released back into the local parks. "I hope all these wild animals could be returned to nature," Lee said.

Currently, he works as a research assistant at four universities in the city and volunteers at the Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the study of reptiles and amphibians.

Even though Hong Kong has ample green areas that serve as different habitats for snakes, Liz Rose-Jeffreys, Kadoorie Farm's conservation officer, thinks the city's urban development may threaten the survival of snake species.

"This is one of mutual respect, really. They are our wild neighbours, they've been here a lot longer than us, and I think we have a duty to respect nature," she said.